



**COUNTY BOROUGH OF OLDHAM**

---

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**of the**

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH**

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**1957**



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Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
Oldham.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of Oldham and the work of the Health Department for the year 1957.

During the year, attention was again drawn to the unsatisfactory and totally inadequate accommodation in the Health Department buildings. Representation was made to the Surveyors and Buildings Committee and also to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for new or alternative accommodation to be made available, but at the end of the year no progress had been made.

It has again been a very busy year during which new responsibilities have been placed upon the staff of the department. Again one has to report that a number of senior officers have left the department for more senior appointments with other authorities. This is especially applicable to the Mental Health Service, other authorities being only too anxious to obtain officers who have training and experience in the new schemes and procedures which this authority has pioneered. There has, however, been some improvement in the staffing of the Sanitary Department. In July, the Establishment Committee approved a recommendation that the establishment of public health inspectors be varied to provide for the appointment of two senior inspectors, one with special duties in connection with smoke abatement and the other with special duties in connection with housing. These are senior posts graded A.P.T. Division III.

The services provided under the National Health Service have been fully utilised. The Midwives Service had to meet increasing demands partly due to the closing of a maternity ward at the Oldham and District General Hospital caused by shortage of nursing staff. During the year, 1,161 cases were booked and 985 deliveries attended, an increase of 162 and 135 respectively over the previous year. Of the total births, 52 per cent. were domiciliary confinements compared with 46 per cent. for the previous year. The Health Visiting Service has been more efficient due to the increased number of health visitors employed. The scheme for the appointment of student health visitors is certainly reaping benefits and there have been fewer vacancies caused by resignations from the service. The premises formerly used as a day nursery at Honeywell Lane were re-opened as an infant welfare centre on the 10th December. Adaptations were still proceeding at the end of the year for these premises to afford facilities for ante-natal work. The demands on the Ambulance Service still continued to increase, more patients being moved and a greater mileage run. The increase in cases removed is almost entirely due to removals by sitting-case vehicles. The Home Nursing Service is now more static and the new cases accepted showed a slight decrease compared with the previous year. The number of visits made, however, continued to rise. In spite of every effort to stabilise the Domestic Help Service, the upward spiral in the number of new cases continued, and in view of the increasing age of the population this can be regarded as a permanent trend of the future.

The development of the Geriatric Unit at Oldham and District General Hospital under the Consultant Geriatrician, Dr. W. H. Lloyd, has resulted in many cases which present a socio-medical problem at home receiving early hospital admission. These cases are referred to the department from various sources. They are visited by a medical officer, and, if considered necessary, urgent priority admission requested. The admission to hospital of a large number of cases has been expedited and in this way the Domestic Help and Home Nursing Services have been relieved of many problems. I wish to record my appreciation of Dr. Lloyd's co-operation.

In December, 1956, advice was received from the Ministry of Health that regular supplies of poliomyelitis vaccine should become available from the middle of January and onwards and medical officers were given authority to make their own selection of age groups for vaccination of registered children. In November, Circular 16/57 advised that vaccination could be offered to children under 15 years of age and expectant mothers. Vaccination was also made available to certain priority groups, namely, ambulance staff and their families, general practitioners and their families and hospital staff and their families. Information was also received that Salk vaccine manufactured in Canada and the United States of America would be made available after it had passed the safety tests that were being applied to the British vaccine. Throughout the year vaccine continued to be in fairly short supply and only 3,154 children completed the full course of two injections. During December, propaganda was circulated amongst the new age groups, but it was not possible to vaccinate any of these children before the end of the year. No Salk vaccine was received and the only vaccine used was "POLIVIRIN" (Glaxo). This extension of the age groups and the more free supplies of vaccine are to be welcomed. The onus is now on the parents to give consent for their children to be vaccinated.

In January, in accordance with the revised proposals, immunisation against tetanus commenced. The material recommended and used for the age group 0-10



years is Triple Antigen (Glaxo). This material protects against whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus. The number of children receiving primary diphtheria immunisation and reinforcing injections showed an increase. In spite of very intensive work on the part of the health visitors and the co-operation of general practitioners, quite a number of children failed to receive their primary immunisation during infancy and during the year, 216 school children received this protection. Diphtheria is now a rare disease and our last case occurred in 1950 when only one case was recorded. It is pleasing to report that infant vaccination against smallpox shows quite a marked improvement, 39.37 per cent. under one year being vaccinated compared with 31.56 per cent. for the previous year.

In June, Ministry of Health Circular 7/57 was received. This circular drew attention to the increased incidence of cancer of the lung and to the Report of the Medical Research Council on the risk of lung cancer by cigarette smoking. No special publicity was initiated by the Health Committee as by arrangement, the Manchester Committee on Cancer undertakes all cancer education in the Borough and it was felt that their speakers were most fitted in the course of their lectures and talks to draw attention to the danger of cigarette smoking and lung cancer. In October, a special lecture was arranged at the School of Commerce when lung cancer was discussed. With regard to the schools it was arranged for Mr. John Wakefield, the Executive Officer of the Committee, to approach head teachers with a view to talks being given to senior students. The first talk was given at Couthill Grammar School on the 12th November.

Our Mental Health Service is widely known both in this country and abroad. We have received distinguished visitors from New York and other parts of America. In June we were honoured by a visit from the Minister of Health, Mr. Dennis Vosper. He attended the case conference and visited the Industrial Centre and met the Mayor and Members of the Health Committee at lunch. The Minister paid great tribute to the service that had been provided and to the advanced progress made. He was particularly anxious to visit Oldham as he had just received the Report of the Royal Commission on the Law Relating to Mental Illness and Mental Deficiency and wished to see for himself the future trends in the Mental Health Service. The Manchester Regional Hospital Board primarily inspired by the work in Oldham and by the Chairman of their Mental Health Committee, Dr. Arthur Pool, decided to produce a film on mental deficiency. In this film shots of the Arthurs Industrial Centre were included. The producer, Mr. G. Buckland Smith, of Greenpark Productions Ltd., and the scriptwriter, were afforded a great deal of help and advice from your Lay Administrative Officer which they much appreciated. The film received its official premiere at the Town Hall, Manchester, on the 7th November, during the reception given by the Lord Mayor to the delegates of the Conference of the National Association for Mental Health. "There was a Door" was subsequently televised by the B.B.C. in an evening programme and copies of the film have been sent to various parts of the world.

The birth rate of 16.12 per thousand of the population once again shows a rise and compares with 15.14 for the previous year and 16.1 for England and Wales.

The death rate of 14.81 compares with 14.29 for the previous year and 11.5 for England and Wales. This increased death rate was undoubtedly due to the outbreak of "Asian influenza" which occurred in September and October. The total deaths numbered 1,759 and of these 1,170 or 66.52 per cent. occurred in persons aged 65 years or over. It is striking to note that in the age group 2-24 years only 14 deaths occurred and of these 4 were due to accidents and 1 to malignant disease.

Once again no deaths were registered as due to pregnancy or child-birth and a nil maternal mortality rate was recorded for the Borough. One death was registered which was due to "associated" causes. It is a remarkable achievement that over a period of five years we have been able to record a nil mortality rate and only 3 deaths due to associated causes. This achievement reflects great credit on the maternity services provided by the local health authority and by the hospital service. It is to be regretted that no hospital facilities exist for our Consultant Obstetrician, Mr. A. H. Barber. Since his services were terminated by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board in 1952, he has continued to serve us and it is gratifying that our confidence in him has been proved as in December he was successful in the action he brought in the High Court against the Manchester Regional Hospital Board and the Minister of Health for wrongful dismissal.

The infant mortality rate of 26.63 per thousand live births compares with 27.09 for the previous year and 23.1 for England and Wales. This is the lowest rate yet recorded. The total infant deaths numbered 51; of these 25 occurred under the age of two weeks and 15 of the latter within twenty-four hours of birth.

There were 13 deaths due to tuberculosis (all forms) and the death rate of 0.11 compares with 0.16 for the previous year and .107 for England and Wales. All these deaths were due to pulmonary tuberculosis and for the first time on record no deaths were registered as due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.



Details of the infectious diseases are given in the body of the report. During the first four months of the year an epidemic of measles which commenced in December of the previous year continued and 2,469 cases were notified during this period. It is to be regretted that one death occurred, a male aged 13 months who died at home. There were 5 cases of paralytic poliomyelitis notified and confirmed, these were all children and in no case had the parents given consent for vaccination. It is unusual to report that no cases of non-paralytic poliomyelitis were notified or brought to notice. Dysentery caused little concern and only 85 cases were notified during the year, and of these 45 occurred during December. "Asian influenza" attacked the country in the late summer and autumn and reached Oldham in September. The outbreak is fully described and accounted for 34 deaths from influenza or influenzal pneumonia during September and October.

There was no major outbreak of food poisoning although 16 cases were formally notified and in addition 10 cases were ascertained following enquiry and investigation. Again the *Salm. typhi-murium* organism was the main villain of the piece and was isolated from 11 of the 26 cases.

Progress with regard to slum clearance continued to be slow, only 314 houses being represented. Of these, 182, were dealt with as individual unfit houses and 132 included in clearance areas. Objections were received to the Littlemoor Clearance Orders made in the previous year, and in April, Mr. S. G. Bulstrode, an inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, opened the public inquiry. This continued for three days and it was not until September that confirmation of the Orders was received. The Orders were confirmed with minor modifications—three properties (two houses used as combined workshop and garage and one house used as a grocer's shop) were changed from "pink" to "grey." Of all the properties only two were completely excluded—a public house and a fit dwelling house which was adjacent, neither being in the clearance area.

In February, the Council resolved that the building of new houses should be limited to 400 per year and that all these should be allocated for the re-housing of residents from slum clearance properties. The staffing position of the department having improved, it is possible to deal with a considerably increased number of slum clearance properties, but it is the small number of new houses being built per year that is restricting our slum clearance progress. In December, the Housing and Corporate Properties Committee decided that, owing to the high rate for loan charges and other costs, the building programme should be reduced from 400 to 270 houses per year in the immediate years ahead. This decision will further seriously affect slum clearance progress and will result in fewer houses being represented, either as individual houses or as clearance areas.

The Clean Air Act received Royal Assent in July, 1956, and certain sections came into operation at the beginning of the year. With regard to the prior approval of plans for new boiler plants, a panel of experts was set up to consider such plans and to make recommendations. The Act provides for Smoke Control Areas—previously Smokeless Zones—to be established. These require a detailed survey of the proposed area and much preliminary work is necessary before any official action can be taken. The shortage of experienced inspectors, especially those with a "Smoke qualification," makes it difficult to press on with these schemes, especially as Slum Clearance must receive top priority. At the earliest opportunity a report will be submitted to the Health Committee. In December the Council adopted the Model Building Byelaw for use under Section 24 of the Act.

There were fewer staff changes during the year than in recent years. In February, Dr. W. R. Falconer left the service having been appointed to the post of Assistant Divisional Medical Officer (Division 14), Lancashire County Council. In March, Dr. B. A. Murray was appointed to fill a vacancy which had existed since December of the previous year, and in August Dr. Monica B. Pool commenced duties. In July, Mr. Paul Hudson, Mental Health Officer and Duly Authorised Officer, left to take up the appointment of Social Welfare Officer to the County of Fifeshire. Mr. P. Stephens, who had been employed as Supervisor of the Occupation Centre from September, 1956, left the service, having secured an appointment at the Vineland Institute, New Jersey, U.S.A. It is tragic to report that after only a few months' stay in America he was killed in a street accident. Mr. J. Crosdale, Public Health Inspector, retired on superannuation in August after completing 40 years' service. Mr. Crosdale's main duties were in connection with slum clearance and his knowledge and experience in this particular sphere proved of the greatest value in the preliminary preparation for the representation of individual unfit houses and clearance areas.

I wish to tender my sincere thanks to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their support and encouragement. My thanks are also due to all members of the staff for their loyal service during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

J. T. CHALMERS KEDDIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

## THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

(from 20th May, 1957)

### *Chairman:*

Councillor S. T. Marron, J.P., F.C.C.S. ✓

### *Deputy Chairman:*

Alderman J. Bradley ✓

### *The Mayor:*

Councillor Arnold Tweeddale, J.P.

Alderman Miss A. A. Kenyon, J.P. ✓

Councillor F. Baxter ✓

Councillor J. H. Broadbent ✓

Councillor J. McQuillan ✓

Councillor Mrs. E. Rothwell

Councillor W. Wheeler ✓

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE

### *Chairman:*

Councillor S. T. Marron, J.P., F.C.C.S.

### *Deputy Chairman:*

Alderman J. Bradley

The Mayor

Alderman Miss A. A. Kenyon, J.P.

Councillor F. Baxter

Councillor J. H. Broadbent

Councillor J. McQuillan

Councillor Mrs. E. Rothwell

Councillor W. Wheeler

### *Non-Council Members:*

Mrs. L. M. Whittaker

## HOME NURSING SUB-COMMITTEE

### *Chairman:*

Councillor Mrs. E. Rothwell

The Mayor

Alderman J. Bradley

Alderman Miss A. A. Kenyon, J.P.

Councillor F. Baxter

Councillor J. H. Broadbent

Councillor S. T. Marron, J.P.

Councillor J. McQuillan

Councillor W. Wheeler

### *Non-Council Members:*

Miss C. Faulkner

Mr. T. E. C. Crozier

Miss E. Goode



**MENTAL HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE***Chairman:*

Alderman Miss A. A. Kenyon, J.P.

The Mayor

Alderman J. Bradley

Councillor F. Baxter

Councillor J. H. Broadbent

Councillor S. T. Marron, J.P.

Councillor J. McQuillan

Councillor Mrs. E. Rothwell

Councillor W. Wheeler

*Non-Council Members:*

Miss A. Wrigley

## STAFF

### THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer:*

J. T. Chalmers Keddie, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Senior School Medical Officer:*

John Starkie, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*Assistant Medical Officers of Health and Assistant School Medical Officers:*

Edna Circuit, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Horace Bailey, M.B., Ch.B.

William R. Falconer, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (to 28-2-57)

Thomas W. Sherratt, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S.

Brendan A. Murray, M.B., B.Ch., D.C.H., D.P.H. (from 18-3-57)

Monica B. Pool, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H. (from 19-8-57)

*Principal School Dental Officer:*

James Fenton, L.D.S.

*Dental Officers:*

J. H. Woolley, L.D.S.

\*A. d'A. Fearn, L.D.S.

\*Joyce Gibson, L.D.S. (to 17-5-57)

E. Twelves, L.D.S. (from 1-10-57)

\* Part-time.

*Consultants:*

A. H. Barber, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.P. ....Obstetrician

R. M. Maher, B.Sc., M.D., B.S., M.R.C.P. ....Physician

D. Hilson, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., D.C.H., M.R.C.P. ....Pædiatrist

Arthur Pool, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P., D.P.M. ....Psychiatrist

G. S. Robertson, M.B., Ch.B. ....Mental Deficiency

J. N. Appleton, M.B., Ch.B., D.L.O., F.R.C.S. ....Aural Surgeon

G. Mason-Walshaw, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.F.A., D.A. ....Anæsthetist

*Chest Physician:*

Henry S. Bagshaw, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Public Analyst:*

T. W. Lovett, F.R.I.C.

*Deputy Public Analyst:*

J. G. Sherratt, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.



*Chief Public Health Inspector:*

Harold V. Cass

*Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:*

John Brook

*Senior Public Health Inspectors:*

Meat: H. Shaw

Housing: D. Eckersley (from 26-9-57)

*Public Health Inspectors:*

J. Crosdale (to 31-8-57), J. McKenna, D. Eckersley (to 25-9-57),  
 A. P. Mellor, J. M. Mellor (from 31-5-57 to 29-10-57), H. Mousdell  
 (from 31-5-57), N. Lees (from 18-7-57).

*Lay Administrative Officer:*

T. P. McKniff

*Chief Clerk:*

Miss M. Royle

*Ambulance Officer:*

E. G. Crapper

*Mental Health Officers and Duly Authorised Officers:*

Walter Davies, Dip.Soc. Studies (London) (Senior)

Paul Hudson, B.A. (to 7-7-57)

Miss A. Kelly

Donald Cheetham (from 1-4-57)

*Mental Health Officer:*

Mrs. B. Lees

*Psychologist:*

D. B. Worthington, M.A.

*Supervisor of Occupation Centre:*

Mr. P. Stephens, Dip. Nat. Asscn. Mental Health (to 31-7-57)

Mr. P. J. Bird, Un. Dip. in Youth Service &amp; Organisation (from 26-8-57)

*Senior Handicraft Instructor, Industrial Centres:*

N. Bloomfield

*Superintendent Health Visitor and Superintendent School Nurse:*

Miss A. W. Moordaff, S.R.N., H.V.Cert.

*Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor and Deputy Superintendent School Nurse:*

Miss C. Williamson, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

*Health Visitors/School Nurses:*

Mrs. H. Emmott (Senior), Mrs. C. Smith, Miss W. McDonnell,  
 Mrs. C. Reeves, Mrs. S. Clayton, Mrs. I. Hartley, Mrs. M. McKenna,  
 Mrs. A. M. Walshe, Miss S. E. Nixon, Miss M. S. Hall, Mrs. D.  
 Whitehead, Miss N. Lawless, Miss M. Tully (from 1-6-57),  
 Miss B. Ogden (from 21-7-57).

*School Nurses:*

\*Miss E. E. Williams, †\*Miss T. Dolan, †\*Mrs. D. Spencer,  
 †\*Mrs. M. Cordon (to 9-3-57), Mrs. H. Eglin (from 30-9-57)  
 \* S.R.N. † Temporary

*Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives:*

Miss M. M. Nugent, S.R.N., S.C.M.

*Assistant Superintendents:**Midwives' Home:*

Miss J. Critchley (Senior) (to 4-11-57)  
 Miss R. E. Treanor (from 1-12-57)

*Municipal Midwives:*

Miss B. Holland, Mrs. E. Kidder, Mrs. E. Lees, Mrs. E. C. McMahon,  
 Miss A. Pearson, Mrs. A. Quinn, Mrs. M. Kirwin, Mrs. K. Springis  
 (to 30-3-57), Mrs. M. J. Sweeney, Miss M. Hadfield, Mrs. A. M. Leckey  
 (to 3-8-57), Mrs. J. Thomas, Mrs. F. H. M. Hughes, Miss R. E. Treanor  
 (to 30-11-57), Miss K. Alletson, Miss D. Coupe, Mrs. D. Inman (from  
 1-2-57), Mrs. W. A. Sutton (from 18-3-57).

*Superintendent of District Nursing:*

Miss E. Peak, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

*District Nurses:*

Miss J. A. Baker, Miss A. Schofield (to 5-7-57), Miss H. Hollinshead  
 (to 30-3-57), Miss E. Dumville, Miss A. Tulley, Mrs. J. Tweedale,  
 Mrs. D. Cooper, Mrs. N. Smith, Mrs. D. M. Hankirk (née Morgan),  
 Mrs. E. Lutener, Mrs. M. T. Lees (from 10-4-57), Miss P. R. Pearson  
 (from 22-7-57), Mrs. M. Cowen (from 4-11-57), Mr. F. P. Earnshaw,  
 Mr. E. L. Taylor, Mr. W. Higgins, Mr. John Wilson (from 1-2-57).

*Domestic Help Organiser:*

Miss E. M. Kenworthy

**OLDHAM CREMATORIUM***Medical Referee:*

J. T. Chalmers Keddie, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Deputy Medical Referees:*

John Starkie, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
 William R. Falconer, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (to 28-2-57)  
 Horace Bailey, M.B., Ch.B. (from 12-3-57)



## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

### General Statistics

Area in Acres .....	6,390
Enumerated Population (Census 9-4-51) .....	121,212
Registrar General's Estimate of Population (middle of 1957) .....	118,800
Density of Population, i.e., number of persons per acre .....	18.59
Number of houses in the Borough, 31st December, 1957:	
(a) Permanent .....	41,389
(b) Temporary (prefabricated) .....	350
	41,739
Number of new houses erected in 1957:	
(a) Permanent:	
(i) by local authority .....	326
(ii) by other bodies or persons .....	110
	436
(b) Temporary (prefabricated):	
(i) by local authority .....	—
(ii) by other bodies or persons .....	—
	—
Rateable Value (1st April, 1957) .....	£1,151,009
Sum represented by a penny rate (31st March, 1957) .....	£4,949
Total number of persons on doctors' lists at 31-12-57 .....	118,562
Number of marriages during the year .....	872
Persons married per thousand of population .....	7.34

### Extracts from Vital Statistics

Live Births (Males 999, Females 916) .....	1,915
Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population .....	16.12
Stillbirths (Males 29, Females 28) .....	57
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 births .....	28.90
Deaths (Males 864, Females 895) .....	1,759
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated population .....	14.81
Maternal Deaths .....	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 births .....	Nil
Deaths of Infants under one year .....	51
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births .....	26.63
Other Death Rates per 1,000 of estimated population:	
Tuberculosis:	
(a) All forms .....	0.11
(b) Pulmonary .....	0.11
Other respiratory diseases .....	2.73
Cancer .....	2.50
Smallpox, Enteric Fever, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, and Diphtheria .....	0.02

## SECTION I

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Oldham is situated in the County of Lancaster on the south-western slopes of the Pennines. Its highest point is 1,225ft. and its lowest 350ft. above sea level.

The principal industries in the Borough are textile spinning (especially cotton spinning) and textile engineering, with substantial general engineering and building and civil engineering; vehicle building, distributive trades and clothing industry. Other numerous light industries have been established over a number of years.

#### Area and Population

The area of the Borough on the 1st January, 1957, was 6,390 acres.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population of the Borough at the middle of 1957 is 118,800, which compares with 119,500 for the previous year.

At the 1951 census the population was 121,212.

#### Rateable Value

The rateable value on the 1st April, 1957, was £1,151,009, and the sum represented by a penny rate at the 31st March was £4,949 3s. 7.0216d.

#### Unemployment

Mr. S. Deeves, Manager of the Local Employment Exchange, has kindly supplied particulars of the unemployed on the registers at the Oldham and Chadderton Employment Exchange and Oldham and Chadderton Youth Employment Bureaux during the year together with the following information relating to employment during this year.

"The employment position generally in the area during 1957 can be regarded as good. The percentage of persons registered as unemployed in relation to the insured population varied between 0.8% and 1.1% throughout the year."

1915  
57  
1972



OLDHAM AND CHADDERTON EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE AND OLDHAM AND CHADDERTON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX  
UNEMPLOYED REGISTERS during the Year 1957

DATE	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED				TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED			
	Men 18 and over	Women 18 and over	Boys under 18	Girls under 18	Men 18 and over	Women 18 and over	Boys under 18	Girls under 18
14th January, 1957	492	169	19	22	7	23	—	—
11th February, "	498	171	19	11	23	67	—	—
11th March, "	466	165	21	9	33	94	2	2
15th April, "	459	147	25	11	25	148	—	5
13th May, "	435	207	23	7	57	110	—	—
17th June, "	462	167	11	7	13	24	—	—
15th July, "	446	149	8	4	17	13	—	—
12th August, "	385	156	52	15	6	18	—	1
16th September, "	392	225	17	13	1	10	—	—
14th October, "	376	228	6	12	12	12	—	—
11th November, "	405	250	9	11	23	101	—	1
9th December, "	400	243	9	12	28	90	1	1

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Births

#### Births Registered

##### (a) LIVE BIRTHS:

There were 2,787 live births (1,461 males and 1,326 females) registered in the Borough during the year. After correction for inward (34) and outward (906) transferable births, the net total of births is 1915 (999 males and 916 females).

The illegitimate live births numbered 120, or 6.27 per cent of the total live births.

##### (b) STILLBIRTHS:

During the year 75 stillbirths were registered. After being adjusted by inward and outward transfers the number is 57. The stillbirth rate is 28.90 per thousand total births which compares with 31.07 for the previous year and 22.5 for England and Wales.

#### Births Notified

During the year 1,920 notifications of birth were received relating to 1,865 live births and 55 stillbirths. In addition, 940 notifications were received which were transferred to other authorities concerned. The 2,783 live births and 77 stillbirths were notified as follows:—

Midwives .....	2,844
Doctors .....	16

### Marriages

There were 872 marriages during the year, the rate per thousand of the population being 7.34. In 1956 the number of marriages was 940 and the rate 7.87.

### Deaths

During the year 2,153 deaths were registered in the Borough. After correction for inward (97) and outward (491) transferable deaths, the net total deaths is 1,759 (864 males and 895 females), an increase of 51 on the total for 1956.

Of the 1,759 deaths, 611 (36.41 per cent) occurred in one or other of the following hospitals.

Oldham & District General Hospital .....	453	417
Oldham Royal Infirmary .....	111	129
Westhulme Hospital .....	10	5
Strinesdale Sanatorium .....	5	3
Dr. Kershaw's Cottage Hospital .....	10	13
Woodfield Maternity Home .....	1	—
Royal Infirmary, Manchester .....	5	4
Christie Hospital, Manchester .....	1	3
Crumpsall Hospital .....	4	2



Birch Hill Hospital, Rochdale .....	5	1
Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, Pendlebury	1	1
Ancoats Hospital, Manchester .....	2	1
Park Hospital, Davyhulme .....	6	2
Monsall Hospital, Manchester .....	2	3
Booth Hall Hospital, Blackley .....	2	5
Hyde Hospital, Hyde .....	2	-
General Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne .....	2	7
Baguley Hospital, Manchester .....	1	6
Racefield Pulmonary Hospital, Chadderton .....	3	1
Wolstenholme Hospital, Norden, Rochdale .....	1	1
Victoria Hospital, Blackpool .....	3	1
Royal Infirmary, Huddersfield <i>BURY GENERAL HOSPITAL</i> .....	1	1
Skin Hospital, Quay Street, Manchester .....	1	
Northern Hospital, Cheetham .....	1	
Chest Hospital, Liverpool .....	1	
St. Luke's Hospital, Bradford .....	1	
St. Joseph's Hospital, Whalley Range .....	1	1
Promenade Hospital, Southport .....	1	
Other Hospitals .....	4	6
<i>WITHINGTON HOSPITAL, MANCHESTER</i> .....		1

Of the total deaths ~~1170~~ (66.52 per cent) occurred in persons aged 65 years or over. *1110 67.06*

The following are the chief causes of death in accordance with the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948:—

Tuberculosis .....	13	12
Malignant Neoplasms, Neoplasms of Lymphatic and Haematopoietic Tissues .....	298	288
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .....	263	255
Coronary Disease, Angina .....	173	204
Hypertension with Heart Disease .....	22	31
Other Heart Disease .....	288	279
Other Circulatory Disease .....	87	76
Pneumonia .....	132	84
Bronchitis .....	142	152
Suicide .....	27	18
Motor Vehicle, other accidents, homicide and operations of war .....	54	67

These groups of diseases account for <sup>1472</sup> 1,499 deaths occurring during the year, or ~~85.22~~ per cent of the total Oldham deaths registered.

*86.59*

Table of Causes of Death at different periods of life during the year, 1957.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages	0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75+
ALL CAUSES ... ..	M	864	30	4	..	6	5	11	17	79	178	268	266
	F	895	21	1	...	1	2	3	29	63	139	271	365
1 Tuberculosis—Respiratory ...	M	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	2	1
	F	6	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	1	2	...
2 Tuberculosis—Other forms	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 Syphilitic Disease ... ..	M	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
	F	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
4 Diphtheria ... ..	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Whooping Cough ... ..	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Meningococcal Infections ...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7 Acute Poliomyelitis .. ...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8 Measles ... ..	M	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ... ..	M	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	M	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	9	17	8
	F	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	6	5	6
11 Malignant Neoplasm—Lung	M	45	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	7	19	13	5
Bronchus ... ..	F	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	3	2
12 Malignant Neoplasm—Breast	M	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
	F	32	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	9	5	9	7
13 Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	4	4	2
14 Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ... ..	M	66	...	1	...	...	1	1	2	6	20	14	21
	F	69	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	7	16	27	14
15 Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	M	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
16 Diabetes ... ..	M	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
17 Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ... ..	M	116	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	11	56	43
	F	147	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	22	47	69
18 Coronary Disease, Angina ...	M	103	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	18	30	34	19
	F	70	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	13	31	24
19 Hypertension with Heart Disease ... ..	M	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	3
	F	14	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	8	3
20 Other Heart Disease ... ..	M	116	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	3	13	34	61
	F	172	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	21	45	93	...
21 Other Circulatory Disease ...	M	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	12	16
	F	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	5	17	27
22 Influenza ... ..	M	13	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	3	4	1
	F	22	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	2	4	8	4
23 Pneumonia ... ..	M	64	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	4	10	22	24
	F	68	6	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	7	16	36
24 Bronchitis ... ..	M	87	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	8	22	30	23
	F	55	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	14	16	20	...
25 Other Diseases of Respiratory System ... ..	M	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	5	...
	F	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...
26 Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	M	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	4	2
	F	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1
27 Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	3	1
28 Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	M	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	1
	F	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3	1
29 Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	M	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	7
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30 Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31 Congenital Malformations	M	11	9	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
	F	7	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
32 Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases ... ..	M	62	16	1	...	2	1	...	1	6	8	6	21
	F	69	6	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	9	16	33
33 Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	M	9	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	2	1	2	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
34 All other Accidents ... ..	M	21	2	...	...	1	...	2	1	3	1	4	7
	F	23	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	6	15
35 Suicide ... ..	M	16	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	9	...	3
	F	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	4	2	...
36 Homicide and Operations of War ... ..	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...



### Maternal Mortality

The maternal mortality rate was nil, the same as in the previous year.

Deaths directly due to pregnancy and childbirth ..... Nil

No deaths directly due to pregnancy or childbirth were registered or brought to notice during the year.

Deaths due to associated causes ..... 1

There were two deaths due to associated causes registered in the Borough. One was a transferable death, a married woman aged 23 years, who died in the Oldham and District General Hospital and the Medical Officer of Health of the district concerned was notified accordingly. The cause of death in this case was as follows:—

Hypostatic pneumonia following abortion. Inquest.

The one Oldham death was a married woman aged 45 years. She was a booked district case who was admitted to the Oldham and District General Hospital as an emergency. The cause of death was:—

I(a) Staphylococcal pneumonia.

II Post-operative anæmia. Placenta prævia.

### Infant Mortality

There were 67 deaths (37 males and 30 females) of infants under one year of age registered in the Borough. After correction for inward (5) and outward (21) transferable deaths, the net total of infant deaths is 51 (30 males and 21 females), an increase of 2 on the total for the previous year. Of the 51 infant deaths 5 were those of illegitimate children and 28 occurred in infants under 4 weeks old, equivalent to a neo-natal mortality of 14.62 per 1,000 live births.

The following table shows the neo-natal and infant mortality during the last five years, together with five-year averages from 1935:—

Year	Infant Deaths under 1 month	Neo-Natal Mortality rate per 1,000 births	Infant Deaths under 1 year	Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 births
Average 5 yrs.—1935-1939	60	35.75	107	64.68
Average 5 yrs.—1940-1944	47	26.86	109	62.48
1945 .....	47	24.75	96	50.55
1946 .....	47	22.05	92	43.15
1947 .....	69	26.45	147	58.03
1948 .....	55	24.57	104	46.47
1949 .....	51	25.94	82	41.71
Average 5 yrs.—1945-1949	54	24.75	104	47.98
1950 .....	35	18.73	66	35.31
1951 .....	46	23.72	79	40.74
1952 .....	49	27.34	77	42.97
1953 .....	36	19.04	59	31.20
1954 .....	31	18.06	46	26.81
Average 5 yrs.—1950-1954	39	21.38	65	35.41
1955 .....	36	20.47	54	30.70
1956 .....	36	19.90	49	27.09
1957 .....	28	14.62	51	26.63



INFANT MORTALITY DURING 1957. Deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year.

INDEX	CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 1 day	1-2 days	2-3 days	3-4 days	4-5 days	5-6 days	6-7 days	Total under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total under 1 year
Classi- cation	ALL CAUSES—Certified ... Uncertified	15	5	3	...	1	...	...	24	1	2	1	28	12	6	5	...	51
✓ 057	Meningococcal Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
340/1	Pneumococcal Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
✓ 480	Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
✓ 490	Staphylococcal Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
✓ 491	Bronchopneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	1
✓ 571	Gastro Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
744/1	Congenital Amyotonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
✓ 750	Anencephaly ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
✓ 751	Spina Bifida (Meningocele) ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
✓ 752	Congenital Hydrocephalus ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
✓ 754/4	Congenital Heart Disease ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
✓ 754/5	Coarctation of Aorta ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
✓ 756/2	Tracheo-Oesophageal Fistula ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
✓ 759	Fibrocystic Disease ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
✓ 759/3	Congenital Maldeveloped Larynx ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
✓ 759/3	Malformation of Ureters ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
✓ 760/5	Intracranial Haemorrhage, with Immaturity ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
✓ 761	Breech Delivery ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
✓ 762	Atelectasis ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
✓ 770	Haemolytic Disease of Newborn ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
771	Haemorrhagic Disease of Newborn ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
772	Marasmus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
✓ 776	Immaturity (Unqualified) ...	6	2	1	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
✓ E903	ACCIDENTS: Intra-cranial Haemorrhage follow- ing fall at home ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
✓ E922	Asphyxia — Rubber dummy and plastic disc lodging in deceased's throat ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
✓ E924	Asphyxia — Accidental suffocation in cot ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
	TOTALS ...	15	5	3	...	1	...	...	24	1	2	1	28	12	6	5	...	51

# VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE BOROUGH FOR THE YEAR AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR	Popula- tion estimated to middle of each year	BIRTHS			Total deaths regis- tered in the Borough	Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths after correction			
		Births Regis- tered	Nett after correction			Of non- residents regis- tered in the Borough	Of resi- dents not regis- tered in the Borough	At all ages		Under 1 year	
			Number	Rate				Number	Rate	Number	Rate per 1,000 nett births
1930-1939 Average 10 years	—	2016	1734	12.9	2314	380	72	14.7	126	72	
1940	118,400	2092	1542	13.02	2359	510	101	16.47	105	67	
1941	116,860	2317	1649	14.11	2376	533	86	16.50	107	64	
1942	114,300	2576	1707	14.93	2163	513	65	15.00	110	64	
1943	112,300	2885	1845	16.43	2292	542	77	16.27	114	61	
1944	112,700	3268	2023	18.03	2168	525	83	15.39	108	53	
1945	111,350	2911	1899	17.05	2145	486	71	15.54	96	50	
1946	116,240	3420	2132	18.34	2148	525	70	14.56	92	43	
1947	117,900	4076	2533	21.48	2213	524	74	14.95	147	58	
1948	120,600	3477	2238	18.56	2146	516	60	14.01	104	46	
1949	120,600	2950	1966	16.30	2302	562	59	14.92	82	42	
1940-1949 Average 10 years	—	2997	1953	16.82	2231	524	75	15.36	106	55	
1950	119,500	2946	1869	15.64	2114	503	107	14.38	66	35	
*1951	119,450	2913	1939	16.23	2139	453	112	15.05	79	41	
1952	119,800	2632	1792	14.96	1973	424	123	13.96	77	43	
1953	119,100	2707	1891	15.88	1999	244	93	15.52	59	31	
*1954	120,340	2479	1716	14.26	1980	262	99	15.10	46	27	
1955	120,400	2581	1759	14.61	2135	405	95	15.16	54	30	
1956	119,500	2727	1809	15.14	2122	502	88	14.29	49	27	
1957	118,800	2787	1915	16.12	2153	491	97	14.81	51	27	

\* Borough Extension

1958 118,300 2658 1790 1573 2096 499 103 1700 14.38 49, 27



## COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1957.

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate		Death Rate from Phthisis	Death Rate from other Tubercular Diseases	Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births).		
			Year 1957	Average Five Years 1952-1956			Maternal causes excluding abortion	Due to Abortion	Total maternal mortality
England & Wales	16.1	11.5	23.0	26.0	.095	.012	.39	.08	.47
Birkenhead	17.5	12.7	31.6	30.6	.13	.014	.37	...	.37
Burnley	16.08	15.43	28.48	28.35	.06	.012	1.52	...	1.52
Bury	15.51	13.59	27.68	27.0	.08	.02	...	...	...
Halifax	15.73	15.53	18.65	27.11	.15	...	.65	...	.65
Liverpool	20.9	11.8	26.0	31.0	.16	.006	.36	.06	.42
Manchester	18.22	12.4	30.10	30.51	.14	.02	.56	.07	.63
Oldham	16.12	14.81	26.63	31.75	.11	...	...	...	...
Preston	16.64	14.43	34.66	30.0	.11	...	.5	.5	1.01
Rochdale	15.6	14.5	34.0	29.0	.05	...	1.46	.73	2.19
Salford	18.31	12.97	29.1	31.2	.19	.012	...	...	...
St. Helens	17.2	10.7	31.0	36.5	.14	.02	...	.51	.51
Stockport	16.11	12.90	21.96	31.71	.06	.007	...	...	...
Wallasey	17.88	12.49	26.10	26.51	.11	.009	...	.54	.54
Wigan	15.32	11.53	24.8	34.9	.16	...	...	...	...



## SECTION II

### HOSPITAL AND SPECIALIST SERVICES

#### MANCHESTER REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

The Hospital and Specialist Services are provided through the Manchester Regional Hospital Board and a full Consultant Service is available through the Oldham Hospital Group.

A Domiciliary Specialist Service has been established by the Board and all practitioners are aware of the facilities available.

#### UNITED MANCHESTER HOSPITALS

This is the designated teaching group for the area and comprises the following:—

Manchester Royal Infirmary  
 Manchester Royal Eye Hospital  
 St. Mary's Hospital for Women and Children  
 Dental Hospital of Manchester  
 Manchester Foot Hospital and School of Chiropody

These hospitals and other hospitals in the Manchester and Salford area are utilised by Oldham residents for the more specialised services.

#### OLDHAM AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE GROUP 11

The following have been appointed by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board as members of the Management Committee:—

For the period ending:—

31st March, 1958—Councillor S. T. Marron, J.P., F.C.C.S.  
 Dr. J. T. Chalmers Keddie, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

31st March, 1959—Alderman J. Bradley, J.P.  
 Councillor Mrs. E. Rothwell  
 Alderman Miss A. A. Kenyon, J.P.  
 Councillor A. Tweedale, J.P.

31st March, 1960—Sir Frank Lord, O.B.E., M.A., J.P. (Chairman).

I am indebted to Mr. F. W. Barnett, Secretary of the Oldham and District Hospital Management Committee, for the details contained in the following report:—

The Oldham and District Hospital Management Committee is responsible for the following hospitals, clinics, and, as the agent of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board, undertakes their day to day administration:

**Oldham Royal Infirmary:** This is a general hospital of 203 beds with surgical, orthopædic, ophthalmic and aural beds, a limited number of medical beds, and a children's ward. The hospital serves as the casualty hospital for the area and provides full out-patient facilities.

**Oldham and District General Hospital:** This hospital has a total bed complement of 931. There are 377 beds available for medical, surgical, orthopædic, pædiatric, gynæcological, ear, nose and throat, dental, chest and maternity patients, the latter being accommodated in a large Maternity Unit which contains a premature baby unit. Of the remaining 554 beds, 334 are in the Geriatric Unit, 7 of which are allocated for venereal diseases, and 220 are in the Psychiatric Unit.

There are 8 private beds in the general part of the hospital and 2 for obstetric cases in the Maternity Unit. There are also 6 amenity beds in the Maternity Unit all of which are in single wards.

Full out-patient facilities are provided, the following specialities being accommodated in separate departments—ante-natal, tuberculosis, venereal diseases, psychiatric, geriatric.

The accommodation used by the Welfare Services Committee under Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948, was vacated in the early part of the year.

**Strinesdale Sanatorium:** The Sanatorium provides accommodation for 57 patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis—55 being in the main ward and 2 in separate chalets.

**Chadderton Hospital:** This hospital, which is situated in Chadderton, provides 52 beds for female patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.

**Westhulme Hospital:** This hospital provides in-patient accommodation for 58 patients suffering from infectious diseases and for 32 psychogeriatric patients, the latter having been made possible by the renovation and equipping of a ward block which had been out of use for a considerable number of years. This block also accommodates a number of day patients. The patients are under the care of the Consultant Psychiatrist and the unit is staffed from the Psychiatric Unit at the Oldham and District General Hospital.

Throughout the year only two wards, with a total accommodation of 43 beds and a cubicle ward of 14 beds, were in use for cases of infectious disease.

**Woodfield Maternity Home:** This is a general practitioner maternity home with 20 amenity beds.

**Dr. Kershaw's Cottage Hospital, Royton:** This is a general practitioner hospital situated in Royton and provides accommodation for 20 patients.

**The Orthopædic Clinic, Gainsborough Avenue:** This clinic also provides facilities for physiotherapy and artificial sunlight. Cases are referred for treatment from the school clinics, child welfare centres and by private practitioners.

#### THE HARGRAVES CONVALESCENT HOME

This home, providing 28 beds, usually known as "The Nook," is situated in Saddleworth, and is administered by the Huddersfield Hospital Management Committee, 21 beds being available for patients from the Oldham hospitals.



### EMERGENCY MATERNITY UNIT

An Emergency Maternity Unit operates from the Oldham and District General Hospital and is available to all general practitioners in the area.

### PATHOLOGICAL SERVICES

The majority of the pathological and bacteriological work of the Public Health Department is undertaken in the laboratories at Oldham and District General Hospital and Oldham Royal Infirmary. Certain examinations, e.g., ice cream and water, are undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory Service at the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

### NURSING HOMES

There are no registered nursing homes in the Borough.

### OLDHAM AND DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICES CONTRIBUTORY ASSOCIATION

It is with the deepest regret that the death of Mr. Edgar Ormerod, Secretary of the Association, is recorded. Mr. Ormerod had been Secretary since the Association was formed from the Oldham Royal Infirmary Contributory Scheme in 1948. His death has been a great loss and I wish to record my sincere appreciation of his generous co-operation at all times.

Since the Association was formed in 1948 almost 5,000 visits have been made by the physiotherapists and more than 2,500 members have been given the benefit of convalescent home treatment.

The following information is given by courtesy of Miss B. Barton, Secretary of the Association:—

The Oldham and District Health Services Contributory Association is a voluntary association whose object is to enable contributors to provide by means of a small weekly payment, convalescent treatment, physiotherapy in the home and also to obtain financial assistance towards expenses for surgical appliances, dentures, optics and the like. Assistance is also given towards payment for home help, and the provision of sick room and invalid equipment. There is no income limit for contributors. The rates of contribution are 2d. per week for a single person and 4d. per week for a married person. The contributions entitle the member, his wife, and his or her children up to school-leaving age to receive the benefits of the scheme, but do not entitle any other person or persons dependent on the member to receive the benefits. Such persons may become members of the scheme by payment of the recognised contribution.

During the year it became apparent that owing to rising costs, either the income should be increased or the benefits reduced. After much thought and discussion the following changes were agreed and came into operation on the 1st July, 1957:



- 1—That the cash refund on dentures should be reduced to:

Full set of dentures .....	£2 0 0
Upper or lower set of dentures .....	£1 0 0

- 2—No third application for convalescence would be considered unless 5 clear calendar years had elapsed since the second admission.

During the year the Association provided the following benefits to members resident in the Borough and the adjacent districts:

Convalescent Cash Grants .....	229
Optical .....	5,406
Dental .....	1,506
Surgical Appliances .....	66
Convalescent Bus Fares .....	129
Home Helps .....	5

The Association provides a Mobile Physiotherapy Service, operating two vans. The following figures relate to the work of the Unit during the year:—

Number of patients visited .....	245
Number of visits .....	3,916
Number of treatments .....	8,340

The number of treatments is made up as follows:—

Massage .....	3,011
Exercises .....	2,086
Sun ray .....	7
Radiant heat .....	1,160
Infra red .....	36
Galvanism .....	10
Faradism .....	141
Shortwave diathermy .....	1,889

The local health authority make an annual grant of £25 to the Association for the facilities provided in connection with the loan of nursing equipment and convalescence.

## SECTION III

## LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

## HEALTH CENTRES

(Section 21)

It has been agreed that a centre for local health authority services with provision, at some future date, for general practitioner services should be erected on a site which has been reserved at Alt Lane, Abbeyhills.

## CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

(Section 22)

## Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics

The Central Clinic, 29, Queen Street, provides facilities for ante-natal and post-natal clinics. Ante-natal clinics are held each afternoon from Monday to Friday, with the exception of Wednesday afternoon when new cases attend for booking and examination by the midwife. An assistant medical officer attends the booking sessions when blood specimens are taken. The Consultant Obstetrician attends each session fortnightly. No clinics are held in the homes of the midwives.

Expectant mothers are advised on all aspects of ante-natal and post-natal care, and lectures and talks are arranged by the Supervisor of Midwives. The advantages of inhalational analgesics are fully explained and apparatus is available at the clinic for demonstration purposes.

A post-natal clinic is held weekly on Wednesday morning, attendance being by appointment. The Consultant Obstetrician (Mr. A. H. Barber) attends this clinic which is followed by a special session when he sees cases referred for specialist advice or treatment.

By arrangement with the Principal of the Women's Institute, which is under the control of the Education Committee, a sewing teacher attends the booking session each week to instruct mothers in the making and repairing of children's clothing.

The following table gives details of the sessions held and attendances made at the clinics:—

(1)	No. of premises* in use at end of year (whether held at Child Welfare Centres or elsewhere) (2)	No. of sessions now held per month at clinics included in col. (2)		No. of women in attendance		Total No. of attendances during the year	
		Medical Officers' Sessions	Mid-wives' Sessions	No. of women who attended during the year (4)	No. of new cases included in col. (4) (5)	Medical Officers' Sessions	Mid-wives' Sessions
(a) Ante-Natal Clinics	1*	12	12	1,496	1,161	3,004	5,886
(b) Post-Natal Clinics	—	4	—	90	90	90	—

\* Premises used both for ante-natal and post-natal work.



### Relaxation Exercises

At the beginning of the year a special class, in association with the ante-natal clinic, was held weekly each Wednesday evening. In view of the increasing number of mothers wishing to attend this class, an additional class was held on Thursday evening with effect from the 24th January. At the end of the year, two classes for relaxation exercises were being held each week.

### Provision of Maternity Outfits

Maternity outfits, sterilised and packed ready for use, are available free to expectant mothers whether or not they have booked a municipal midwife for their confinement and can be obtained at the ante-natal clinic.

### Dental Inspection and Treatment

Special arrangements exist for the dental care of expectant and nursing mothers, and young children and by agreement with the Education Committee, the resources of the School Dental Service are available on a user basis. The Principal School Dental Officer, Mr. J. Fenton, L.D.S., under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health, is responsible for the organisation and development of the service and has direct access to the appropriate Sub-Committee.

Mr. Fenton, holds an appointment as Visiting Dental Officer to the Oldham and District General Hospital. He attends two sessions per week and is able to admit mothers and young children who require hospital treatment.

I am indebted to Mr. James Fenton, Principal School Dental Officer for the following report :—

### Expectant and Nursing Mothers

"The dental service provided for these patients is performed by the staff of the School Dental Service at the school dental clinics.

It is very disappointing to have to report again that it has not been possible to develop this very important service. In fact, with the present staffing shortage it is extremely difficult to maintain the service at its present level. In addition, due to the general shortage of dental manpower, these patients experience difficulty in obtaining treatment through the General Dental Practitioners engaged in the National Health Service. Under these circumstances this very important aspect of ante-natal care is having to suffer. As there does not appear to be much hope of improvement of the dental manpower situation in the near future every effort should be made to tackle the problem from a preventive rather than a curative angle. As mentioned in last year's report there is a great need for an intensive dental health education campaign and emphasis should be made on diet and oral hygiene. In addition very serious consideration should be given to the fluoridation of drinking water supplies which has been proved to be effective in preventing dental decay and has no known harmful effects.



It has not been possible to arrange for a dental officer to attend the ante-natal clinics and carry out dental inspections for the new cases. The names of patients who wish to have a dental inspection, are forwarded to the principal dental officer and appointments are made for them to attend. This method results in many cases not receiving a dental inspection. Also the patients who attend are generally the interested ones who often have the better cared for mouths. Consequently, the patients who have very neglected mouths often escape a dental inspection.

**Inspection.**—During the year 252 patients received a dental inspection and 243 (96.43 per cent) were found to require treatment. Of the patients not requiring treatment, 6 were edentulous and wearing full dentures. Of the patients requiring treatment, 201 (82.71 per cent) accepted treatment at the dental clinics and 1 patient (0.42 per cent) stated a preference to attend a dental practitioner of her own choice. Unfortunately 41 patients (16.87 per cent) who were advised to have dental treatment, refused to take any action. The absence of pain often influences many of these patients in reaching this decision and they prefer to attend as and when pain develops and then usually for the extraction of the offending tooth. This policy results in the patient requiring dentures at a comparatively early age.

It is interesting to record that 49 patients had attended dental practitioners and received conservation treatment, i.e., fillings, and that 19 patients had received fillings through the School Dental Service, but did not continue with this type of treatment after leaving school. Financial barriers cannot be the entire reason for this state of affairs, since everyone is entitled to free dental treatment under the National Health Service up to the age of 21 years.

**Treatment.**—Details of the treatment carried out are given in the appended returns.

796 permanent teeth were extracted as compared with 869 last year.

96 permanent teeth were filled. Unfortunately, many of these patients are not interested in conserving their teeth and do not place great value in the retention of their natural teeth.

58 scalings were performed and this is often associated with attendant gum treatment.

35 X-rays were taken to assist in correct diagnosis and treatment—use being made of the X-ray Unit installed at the Cannon Street Clinic.

82 complete and 14 partial dentures were supplied during the year.

The services of a dental mechanic to the profession have been used to assist in the construction of dentures.

A general anæsthetic was administered on 50 occasions when teeth were extracted. The services of Dr. G. Mason-Walshaw, the anæsthetist employed in the School Health Service, are utilised when required. The employment of a highly competent and experienced anæsthetist is essential in this work.

The services of Mr. W. C. Mellor, F.D.S., R.C.S., Consulting Dental Surgeon to the Oldham Hospital Group, are available if required.

### Pre-School Children

During the year 282 children received a dental inspection compared with 335 in the previous year.

These children are usually referred from the infant welfare centres.

Previous reports have mentioned the increase in the incidence of dental decay in pre-school children and the early age at which many of these young children complain of toothache, but even with adequate staff it would be extremely difficult to tackle this problem by the recognised methods of treatment, i.e., conservation of teeth by the insertion of fillings.

634 teeth were extracted and 25 fillings were inserted in temporary teeth.

218 children received general anæsthetics for the extraction of teeth.

The very young children who require a general anæsthetic are referred to the Oldham and District General Hospital and are usually treated as out-patients. The Principal School Dental Officer in his capacity as Visiting Dental Officer to the hospital is able to arrange and carry out the necessary treatment.

The following figures indicate the ages of the 282 children examined during the year:—

Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years
1	3	32	129	116	1

Details of the work undertaken for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children are shown in the following tables:—

	Expectant and Nursing Mothers	Children 5 years & under
<b>(a) Provided with Dental Care:</b>		
Examined .....	252	282
Needing Treatment .....	243	254
Commenced Treatment .....	201	258
Made Dentally Fit .....	150	240
<b>(b) Dental Treatment Provided:</b>		
Extractions .....	796	634
Anæsthetics:		
Local .....	210	26
General .....	50	218
Fillings .....	96	25
Scalings or scaling and gum treatment	58	2
Silver Nitrate Treatment .....	—	—
Dressings .....	5	5
Radiographs .....	35	—
Crowns or inlays .....	—	—
Dentures Provided:		
Complete .....	82	—
Partial .....	14	— "



### Supply of Welfare Foods

The central storage and distribution centre for infant welfare foods is in premises owned by the Corporation and situated in Greaves Street. This centre is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and 9 a.m. to 12 noon Saturday.

The infant welfare centres are used as distributing points. Two full-time clerks and three part-time assistants are engaged in the distribution and supply of infant welfare foods.

### Care of Premature Infants

All infants weighing 5½lb. or less at birth are regarded as premature irrespective of the period of gestation.

Premature infants born on the district, where the home conditions are unsatisfactory, are removed to hospital by ambulance in a special cot and are accompanied by the midwife. In other cases arrangements are made by the Supervisor of Midwives for the home nursing of these infants and, if necessary, suitable equipment is supplied.

One district midwife, specially trained and experienced, was employed whole-time on the nursing of premature infants. This midwife is also approved by the Central Midwives' Board as a teaching midwife. Where possible this midwife is in attendance at the confinement and continues in attendance until the infant weighs 6lb. or the mother is able to care for the infant herself without supervision. She also attends all premature infants discharged from the Oldham and District General Hospital and the Woodfield Maternity Home.

### Premature Births

The following table gives details of premature births notified during the year relating to Oldham residents (including transferred notifications):

	Premature Live Births	Premature Stillbirths
(a) In Hospital .....	99	19
(b) At Home .....	57	7
(c) In Private Nursing Homes .....	—	—
	—	—
	156	26
	—	—

Weight at Birth	PREMATURE LIVE BIRTHS												PREMATURE STILL-BIRTHS					
	Born in Hospital			Born at home and nursed entirely at home			Born at home and transferred to hospital on or before 28th day			Born in nursing home and nursed entirely there			Born in nursing home and trans- ferred to hospital on or before the 28th day			Born in Hos- pital	Born at Home	Born in Nurs- ing Home
	Total	Died Within 24 hrs. of birth	Sur- vived 28 days	Total	Died Within 24 hrs. of birth	Sur- vived 28 days	Total	Died Within 24 hrs. of birth	Sur- vived 28 days	Total	Died Within 24 hrs. of birth	Sur- vived 28 days	Total	Died Within 24 hrs. of birth	Sur- vived 28 days			
3lb. 4oz. or less (1,500 gms. or less)	15	8	4	2	2	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	8	1	...
Over 3lb. 4oz. up to and including 4lb. 6oz. (1,500-2,000 gms.)	12	1	11	11	...	11	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	...
Over 4lb. 6oz. up to and including 4lb. 15oz. (2,000-2,250 gms.)	21	...	19	8	...	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...
Over 4lb. 15oz. up to and including 5lb. 8oz. (2,250-2,500 gms.)	51	...	51	33	1	31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...
Totals	99	9	85	54	3	50	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	7	...



### Care of Unmarried Mothers and Their Children

No Mother and Baby Home is provided, but full use is made of the services available through voluntary organisations. An annual grant is made to the Oldham Council for Moral Welfare Work for which the services of their social worker are available. The grant made this year was again £150.

Cases are referred to the social worker for investigation. She advises the expectant mother on the social aspects of her problem and arranges admission to a suitable home or hostel where necessary. In certain cases where it has not been possible for her to make this provision through the homes available to her, the department has made every endeavour to obtain suitable accommodation.

Under these arrangements 9 cases received ante-natal and post-natal care and one case post-natal care only. The cases receiving ante-natal and post-natal care were admitted to the following homes:—

St. Monica's Home, Liverpool .....	1
Huddersfield Mission Home .....	1
Salvation Army Maternity Home, Leeds .....	1
Ennismore Home, Eccles .....	2
Manchester and Salford Methodist Maternity Home	1
St. Anne's Maternity Home, Heywood .....	1
The Grange, Wilpshire, Blackburn .....	2

The case receiving post-natal care only was admitted to the St. Agnes Home, Manchester, after being confined in Oldham and District General Hospital.

### Child Welfare Centres

A Child Welfare Centre is held at 29, Queen Street, twice weekly and there are eight branch centres, six of which are accommodated in church and school premises. The Greenacres Centre, which was opened in September, 1956, was closed temporarily on the 17th October, 1957, for adaptations to be carried out to provide ante-natal and post-natal facilities. This centre was still closed at the end of the year. The Scottfield Centre was discontinued from the 5th December. The Honeywell Lane Child Welfare Centre was officially opened on the 10th December and a weekly session is held on Tuesday afternoon. This centre is accommodated in premises formerly used as a municipal day nursery and adapted for use as a Child Welfare Centre. The Brunswick Centre, Oxford Street, was discontinued from the 16th October and from this date the centre was held at the Edward Street School, Werneth. A doctor is in attendance at each of these centres. Details of the centres are as follows:—

	Centre	Days	Times
Central	Queen Street	Tuesday	9-30 a.m.
Central	Queen Street	Friday	9-30 a.m.
Edward Street	Werneth	Wednesday	2-0 p.m.
Millgate	Hollins Road	Thursday	2-0 p.m.
Beulah	Withins Road	Tuesday	2-0 p.m.
Honeywell Lane	off Ashton Road	Tuesday	2-0 p.m.
St. Ambrose	Prince Charlie Street	Wednesday	2-0 p.m.
Pitt Street East	off Glodwick Road	Wednesday	2-0 p.m.
St. Barnabas	Arundel Street	Tuesday	2-0 p.m.
*Greenacres	Greenacres Road	Thursday	2-0 p.m.

\* Closed temporarily from 17-10-57.

Orange juice, cod liver oil, national dried milk and vitamins issued by the Ministry of Food are obtainable at all the centres and certain proprietary brands of infant food can be purchased.

By arrangement with the Principal of the Women's Institute, which is under the control of the Education Committee, a sewing teacher attends the centres on alternate weeks to advise mothers on the cutting out and sewing of children's clothing, patching, darning, and how to "make do and mend" with clothes generally.

Clinic Assistants are employed at the centres in connection with the sale of foods and to assist in the keeping of records, etc.

#### Attendances at Child Welfare Centres During 1957

Centre	No. of children who first attended during year and who at their first attendance were under 1 year of age	No. of children who attended and who were born in:			Total No. of children who attended	No. of attendances made by children who at the date of attendance were:			Total attendances during the year
		1957	1956	1952-55		Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.	
St. Ambrose	107	87	92	56	235	1,794	355	145	2,294
St. Barnabas	138	119	101	52	272	2,451	590	108	3,149
Beulah .....	80	70	95	63	228	1,436	299	77	1,812
*Brunswick } Edward St. }	143	124	89	50	263	2,269	312	101	2,682
Central .....	302	264	188	184	636	3,597	820	495	4,912
†Greenacres .	38	34	25	24	83	632	144	55	831
Millgate ...	112	93	85	70	248	1,708	348	201	2,257
Pitt St. ....	183	149	143	94	386	3,008	586	240	3,834
†Scottfield } Honeywell Lane }	193	176	139	85	400	2,560	368	130	3,058
	1,296	1,116	957	678	2,751	19,455	3,822	1,552	24,829

\* Transferred to Edward Street from Brunswick on 16th October, 1957.

† Transferred to Honeywell Lane from Scottfield on 10th December, 1957.

‡ Closed from 17th October, 1957.

#### Co-operation with Voluntary Organisations

With the exception of the Oldham Council for Moral Welfare, no duties have been delegated to other voluntary organisations. The following grants were made during the year:—

	£	s.	d.
National Society of Children's Nurseries .....	3	3	0
Invalid Children's Aid Association .....	3	3	0
Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents .....	2	2	0
National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child	10	10	0
Oldham Council for Moral Welfare Work .....	150	0	0
National Association for Maternal and Child Welfare ...	5	5	0
National Baby Welfare Council .....	3	3	0
Central Council for Health Education .....	22	0	0



## DAY NURSERIES

### Municipal Day Nurseries

The following accommodation was available on the 1st January:—

	Age Groups			Total Places
	0-1	1-2	2-5	
Overens Street .....	5	12	25	42
Tate Street .....	—	13	21	34
	—	—	—	—
	5	25	46	76
	—	—	—	—

At the meeting of the Health Committee in October, it was resolved that Tate Street Day Nursery be closed on the 28th December.

The nurseries were open each day, Monday to Friday, from 7 a.m. to 6-30 p.m., but closed on Saturday morning.

The charge is 6s. per day, but this may be reduced in cases of hardship and appeals against the full charge are dealt with by the Appeals Section of the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee.

The attendances made by children totalled 13,427.

### NURSERIES AND CHILD-MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1948

#### Industrial Day Nurseries

On the 1st January, 9 nurseries were registered under this Act for children aged 0-5 years and provided a total accommodation of 337 places comprised as follows:—

Age 0-1 year .....	19 places
Age 1-2 years .....	97 places
Age 2-5 years .....	221 places

In addition, 4 premises were registered for children over the age of 5 years and provided a total accommodation of 146 places during school holiday periods.

Details of these nurseries have been given in previous reports.

No plans for new nurseries were submitted or approved.

The following table summarised the industrial day nursery provision at the 31st December, 1957:—

Name of Nursery	Age Groups			Total Places
	0-1	1-2	2-5	
*Coldhurst Hall .....	—	—	30	30
*Derker Mill .....	7	14	25	46
*Hartford House .....	—	20	48	68
Iris Mill .....	12	16	19	47
Oldham Twist .....	—	13	19	32
Royd Mill .....	—	—	17	17
*Werneth Spg. Co. ...	—	15	24	39
*Willowbank .....	—	12	19	31
Fine Spinners and Doublers	—	7	20	27
	—	—	—	—
Totals .....	19	97	221	337
	—	—	—	—

\* The managements of these firms provide transport to and from the nursery.

The accommodation at the Copster Hall (Fine Spinners and Doublers) day nursery, which was registered for 26 school children, ceased to be used and the following accommodation was available on the 31st December for school children, and registered for use during the school holiday periods.

Name of Nursery	Age Group	No. of Places
Belgrave Mills .....	5-11	55
All Saints' School (Werneth Spg. Co.)	over 5	45
Iris Mill .....	5-10	20
Total .....		120

Close co-operation exists between the Department and the industrial firms concerned, and by arrangement regular visits are made to the nurseries by the medical staff of the Department for medical inspection and immunisation of the children. The firms are encouraged to consult the Department if any difficulties arise.

In two nurseries, the management also employ their own medical practitioner, who visits regularly.

#### Child Minders

No child minder is registered under the Act, and no applications were received during the year.

### MIDWIVES' SERVICE

#### (Section 23)

At the beginning of the year in addition to the Supervisor of Midwives, 16 full-time midwives and one part-time midwife were employed. During the year the Senior Assistant Superintendent and two other midwives left the service. One midwife was granted leave of absence. The midwife who had been undertaking part-time duties following leave of absence granted in 1956, returned to full-time duties in April and two midwives were appointed and commenced duty. The following midwives were employed at the end of the year:—

- 1 Non-medical Supervisor,
- 1 Assistant Superintendent,
- 14 District Midwives,
- 10 Pupil Midwives.

One of the district midwives specially trained and experienced, undertook full-time duties in connection with the nursing of premature babies. In addition to the above two part-time nurses were engaged on duties in connection with hospital discharges and other special visits. They undertake no deliveries and accept no bookings.

A night off duty system has been in operation since 1955. Under this arrangement a State Registered Nurse is on duty at the Midwives' Home from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. for the purpose of receiving calls and allocating cases to midwives on duty. This nurse also assists with the maintenance of equipment and the keeping of records.



The Oldham District Midwifery Service is approved by the Central Midwives' Board as a Part II Training School. During the year 18 pupils commenced training. Ten pupils took the Part II Examination of the Central Midwives' Board and seven were successful.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee has approved the award of prizes to the best pupil midwives. An examination consisting of a written paper, viva voce and practical is carried out each six months and prizes are awarded on the results of the examination which is conducted by members of the staff. One prize of £5, one of £3 and two of £2 2s. each were awarded during the year.

At the end of the year there were 9 midwives in the service (including one on leave of absence) approved by the Central Midwives' Board as teaching midwives.

### Attendance After Confinement

The midwife attends the mother and baby for one month after confinement. This arrangement only applies to mothers confined on the district and has not yet been extended to cover hospital discharges.

### Administration of Inhalational Analgesics

The number of sets of apparatus for the administration of inhalational analgesics in use throughout the year was 23 — 14 Gas and Air and 9 Trilene. Trilene was administered to 465 cases during the year.

All the midwives employed were qualified to administer inhalational analgesics in accordance with the Rules of the Central Midwives' Board. Provision is made for the training in the use by approved methods of analgesics of domiciliary midwives entering the service who have not already received this training.

During the year, 984 cases were delivered and of these 924 (93.90%) received inhalational analgesic. The remaining 60 cases did not receive inhalational analgesic for the following reasons:—

Patient refused .....	4
Medical reasons .....	5
B.B.A. or delay in summoning a midwife .....	36
Early delivery .....	15

The following table shows the number of cases in which inhalational analgesics and pethidine were administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year:—

	Number of cases in which inhalational analgesics were administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year:—				Number of cases in which pethidine was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year:—	
	When doctor was present at time of delivery of child		When doctor was not present at time of delivery of child		When doctor was present at time of delivery of child	When doctor was not present at time of delivery of child
	Gas and air	" Tri-lene "	Gas and air	" Tri-lene "		
Domiciliary Midwives employed directly by the Local Health Authority .....	19	27	440	438	15	321
Domiciliary Midwives in private practice or employed by organisations not acting as agents of Local Health Authority	—	—	—	—	2	2
Totals:	19	27	440	438	17	323

### Transport

In 1955, the Finance and General Purposes Committee agreed an Assisted Purchase Scheme for midwives using their own cars to carry out official duties and included midwives as "essential users."

Since the inception of this scheme, six midwives have received loans and at the end of the year four were using their own cars under the scheme. Previously midwives had been included in the Car Allowances Scheme of the Corporation as "casual users."

Midwives who had not provided their own cars continued to use public service vehicles, but transport is provided through the Ambulance Service from 5-30 p.m. to 8-30 a.m. at week-ends and public holidays. By arrangement with the Cleansing and Transport Department a car is available during the daytime for urgent calls to confinements; for midwives attending cases out of their own district and in emergency. This car is also available for transporting analgesic equipment.

### Midwives' Accommodation

The approved allocation of Corporation houses for district midwives is 6.

At the end of the year the following accommodation was provided:—

- I. Rented from Corporation Housing Department ... 4 houses
- \*II. Midwives' Home ..... 1

\* This home provides accommodation for 12 midwives or pupil midwives and resident domestic staff.



### Post-Certificate Instruction

In November the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee were advised that under Section G of the Rules of the Central Midwives' Board the Supervisor of Midwives and six district midwives would be due to attend an approved Refresher Course during the year ending 31st January, 1959. Approval was given for the reservation of the required number of places with an additional place for a new appointment.

Two district midwives who are approved teachers attended an approved Refresher Course for Midwives arranged by the Royal College of Midwives; one at Durham from the 3rd to the 9th April and one at Brighton from the 3rd to the 9th November.

### Hospital Discharges

Arrangements exist for maternity patients discharged before the fourteenth day from the Oldham and District General Hospital and Woodfield Maternity Home to be notified to the appropriate local health authority. In the case of Oldham residents the name, address, and date of discharge are notified to the Supervisor of Midwives by telephone prior to an agreed discharge form being received.

### Summary of Work Undertaken by the Municipal Midwives During the Year

#### Confinements:

Number of cases booked .....	1161
*Number of confinements attended .....	985
Number of cases receiving inhalational analgesic .....	924

\*Includes 1 case delivered in the West Riding  
County in emergency.

#### Visits:

Ante-natal cases .....	4,915
During lying-in period .....	23,406
Post-natal .....	1
Hospital discharges .....	2,474
Premature babies:	
(i) Domiciliary births .....	1,442
(ii) Hospital discharges .....	886

During the year, 1,865 live births and 55 stillbirths relating to Oldham residents were notified. Of these 920 (47.92 per cent) occurred in institutions and 1,000 (52.08 per cent) were domiciliary confinements. Of the latter 992 (99.2 per cent) were attended by municipal midwives and 8 (.8 per cent) by a midwife in private practice.

During the year, 62 cases were referred by the Almoner of Oldham and District General Hospital for investigation into home conditions to ascertain if these were suitable or otherwise for domiciliary confinement. In 42 cases the conditions were considered to be suitable and the patients subsequently booked for domiciliary confinement.

## MIDWIVES' ACT, 1951

## Supervision of Midwives

During the year 53 midwives notified intention to practise, compared with 56 in 1956. At the end of the year the following midwives were practising in the area of the Borough:—

## In Domiciliary Practice:

(a) Employed by Local Health Authority ..... 16\*

(b) In private practice ..... 1

## Employed in Institutions:

(a) Oldham and District General Hospital ..... 18

(b) Woodfield Maternity Home ..... 5

\* Includes Supervisor of Midwives.

The following table shows the number of deliveries attended by midwives during the year:—

Number of Deliveries Attended by Midwives in the  
Area During the Year

	Domiciliary Cases				Totals	Cases in Institu- tions
	Doctor not booked		Doctor booked			
	Doctor present at time of delivery of child	Doctor not pres- ent at time of delivery of child	Doctor present at time of delivery of child (either the booked doctor or another)	Doctor not pre- sent at time of delivery of child		
Midwives employed by local health authority ... ..	2	224	42	716	984	—
Midwives employed by Oldham and Dis- trict Hospital Management Com- mittee at Oldham & District General Hospital and Wood- field Maternity Home ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1831
Midwives in private practice ... ..	—	2	2	4	8	—
Totals ... ..	2	226	44	720	992	1831

Number of cases delivered in institutions but attended by domiciliary midwives on discharge from institutions and before the fourteenth day ..... 877

## Breast Feeding

Number of domiciliary cases in which the infant was wholly breastfed at the fourteenth day ..... 799



### Medical Aid Under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives' Act, 1951

There were 112 medical aid forms sent in by domiciliary midwives as compared with 132 in 1956. The conditions for which medical aid was sought were as follows:—

Conditions in Mother		Conditions in Child	
Anæmia .....	1	Congenital abnormalities ....	2
Ante-partum hæmorrhage ...	1	Coryza .....	7
Breast condition .....	2	Inflammation of, or discharge	
Delayed labour—2nd stage ...	2	from eyes .....	28
Heart condition .....	1	Prematurity .....	8
Phlebitis .....	3	Skin conditions .....	2
Pyrexia .....	8	Tongue tied .....	2
Retained placenta .....	1	Other conditions .....	6
Ruptured membranes .....	1		
Ruptured perineum .....	37		
Stillbirth .....	1		
Other conditions .....	5		

### Emergency Maternity Unit

During the year the Emergency Maternity Unit operating from the Oldham and District General Hospital was called out to four domiciliary cases attended by municipal midwives for the following emergencies:—

Post-partum hæmorrhage .....	4
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### HEALTH VISITING SERVICE

#### (Section 24)

There has been no material change in the service during the year. The statistical return summarises the work undertaken by the health visitors.

There is complete co-ordination with the School Health Service, all health visitors being appointed school nurses and the Superintendent Health Visitor being Superintendent School Nurse.

In April, Miss W. McDonnell, health visitor, was transferred to duties in connection with tuberculosis, care and after care. At the end of the year two health visitors were engaged on these duties and were attending the Chest Clinic at Oldham and District General Hospital.

At the beginning of the year the staff consisted of:—

- 1 Superintendent Health Visitor,
- 1 Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor,
- 1 Senior Health Visitor,
- 11 Health Visitors (full-time),
- 1 Health Visitor (part-time).

During the year, the part-time health visitor resigned and two health visitors, both of whom were formerly student health visitors sponsored by the authority, joined the staff, one in June and the other in July. At the end of the year, in addition to the Superintendent Health Visitor, the Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor and the two health visitors engaged on tuberculosis work, 11 health visitors devoting 2/11ths of their time to the School Health Service were employed. The Senior School Nurse/Health Visitor employed by the Education Committee was devoting 4/11ths of her time to duties in the Health Visiting Service.

Of the three public health nurses who were employed at the end of 1956, two (one full-time and one part-time) resigned. The remaining one was successful in obtaining the Health Visitor's Certificate and was appointed health visitor with effect from June. At the end of the year no public health nurses were employed.

The scheme for the appointment of student health visitors continued throughout the year, and two student health visitors, one of whom had been engaged as a public health nurse for a period of approximately four months, commenced training at the Manchester College of Science and Technology in September.

The Housing Committee has agreed to provide housing accommodation for married health visitors. This facility, however, has not been requested to date.

Arrangements exist for one or more health visitors to attend a refresher course each year. Two health visitors attended a course, one arranged by the Royal College of Nursing and held in Oxford from the 20th March to the 2nd April, and the other arranged by the Women Public Health Officers' Association and held in Cambridge from the 20th July to the 3rd August. The Superintendent Health Visitor attended a Special Course on Tuberculosis arranged by the Royal College of Nursing and held in Birmingham from the 23rd to the 28th September, she also attended a One Day Regional Gathering of Case Workers, arranged by the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, which was held in Liverpool on the 11th April.

The Superintendent Health Visitor and one other health visitor are included in the Car Allowances Scheme of the Corporation as "Casual Users." At the present time only the Superintendent is using her own car under the Scheme.

The following table summarises the work of the health visitors during the year:—



## Number of Visits Paid by Health Visitors

H E A L T H   V I S I T O R S									Tuber- culosis Visitor
Number of children under 5 years of age visited during year	Expectant Mothers		Children under 1 year of age		Children age 1 and under 2 years	Children age 2 but under 5 years	Tuber- culous House- holds	Other Cases	Total visits paid to tuber- culous households
	First Visits	Total Visits	First Visits	Total Visits	Total Visits	Total Visits	Total Visits	Total Visits	
7,928	88	169	1,817	10,890	5,977	9,700	1*	5,234	1,950

\*Visits by Health Visitor other than Tuberculosis Visitor.

The 5,234 visits made by health visitors to other cases were made up as follows:—

Premature Births .....	1
Handicapped Children .....	289
Cases of Infectious Diseases:	
Whooping Cough .....	233
Measles .....	2,341
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	4
Dysentery .....	258
Nursery Accommodation .....	109
Daily Minders .....	1
Applications for provision of domestic help	329
Aged and Infirm Persons .....	853
Other Visits .....	906
	<hr/> 5,324 <hr/>

The total number of visits during the year is 41,175, which includes 7,254 ineffective visits.

Attendances made by health visitors at Infant Welfare Centres, Clinics, Nurseries and Nursery Classes:—

Infant Welfare Centres .....	931
Day Nurseries .....	97
Nursery Classes .....	4
Chest Clinic .....	141
Special Clinics .....	1
Immunisation Clinic .....	33
Smallpox Vaccination Clinic .....	27
Poliomyelitis Vaccination Clinic .....	140

### Oldham Mothers' Circle

The Oldham Mothers' Circle is a voluntary body with a committee of eight mothers, the President, Secretary and Treasurer. Meetings are held fortnightly in the evening at the Community Centre, Clegg Street. A small charge is made to members to cover the cost of the room. The object of the Circle is to establish a friendly relationship between the health visitors and the mothers who are able to have an evening free from household responsibilities and meet other mothers to discuss topics of the day.

The Chairman of the Circle is the Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor, Miss C. Williamson, who together with the health visitors is doing a great deal to stimulate and maintain interest in this work.

The health visitors devote much of their leisure time to the work of the Circle and during the year talks and demonstrations were given on a wide range of subjects followed by discussions and films.

During the year all members who were sick or who had been confined, received a visit from one of the mothers and also flowers.

The work of the health visitors in this field is certainly showing good results and is assisting in no small way in the prevention of the break up of family life by helping to educate the new mother and to promote and establish happy and successful family life. The apparent results are indeed a fitting reward for the services given. Our grateful thanks are due to the health visitors and also to the mothers who have taken an active part in the work of the Circle.

### HOME NURSING SERVICE

#### (Section 25)

The Central Office, complete with district room, is accommodated on the ground floor in the Greaves Street premises, which also accommodates the central depot for the distribution of welfare foods and the staff of the Health Visiting Service.

The services of a district nurse can be obtained by a general practitioner on application to the Superintendent at the Central Office, Greaves Street (Telephone No. MAIn 5433).

No night service is provided but evening visits are made to patients where necessary. The district nurses are on rota call for evening and week-end duties, and requests by general practitioners are made through the Ambulance Depot who contact the nurse on call for the particular area. Telephones are installed in the homes of all district nurses.

Patients discharged from hospital requiring nursing care are notified to the Superintendent by the almoners who give the case history and the name of the general practitioner responsible for the patient. By this arrangement, close co-operation is provided between the hospitals and the Home Nursing Service.



The fullest co-operation is received from the general practitioners. Doctors have been requested to issue a note prescribing the treatment required, and the district nurse does not attend a patient unless this written authority is available.

Four autocycles, purchased in 1954, are provided for the three male district nurses and one female district nurse who covers the outlying district of Bardsley. These vehicles are maintained by the authority. All other district nurses use public transport, but at week-ends and in exceptional circumstances, e.g., shortage of staff or extraordinary pressure of work, transport is provided by the Ambulance Service. In September, the Finance and General Purposes Committee gave approval to the posts of two district nurses being included in the Car Allowances Scheme of the Corporation on a "casual user" basis for 8 h.p. cars.

At the beginning of the year the staff consisted of:—

- 1 Queen's Superintendent,
- 6 Queen's Nurses (4 female, 2 male),
- 7 District Nurses (6 female, 1 male),
- 1 District Nurse (female) (part-time).

In January, the Establishment Committee approved a recommendation that the nursing establishment of the service be revised so as to consist of one Queen's Superintendent and 20 district nurses. One Queen's district nurse is designated Senior and has been appointed to act in the absence of the Superintendent.

In view of the increased work, an additional female auxiliary was appointed in May, making a total of 4 auxiliaries employed. These auxiliaries undertake simple bathing and give personal attention to cases. They are only employed on selected cases and always under supervision. During the year the auxiliaries made 5,630 visits.

Four district nurses were appointed and commenced duties. Two district nurses left the service, one, Mrs. A. Schofield, S.R.N., had been on the staff from the "Appointed Day," having been previously employed by the Oldham Nursing Association. She retired on the 5th July.

On the 31st December the staff employed was as follows:—

- 1 Queen's Superintendent,
- 5 Queen's Nurses (3 female, 2 male),
- 10 District Nurses (8 female, 2 male),
- 1 District Nurse (female) (part-time).

Two male district nurses, one of whom is Queen's trained, attended a refresher course for district nurses arranged by the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, one at Glasgow from the 20th to 27th September, and one at Bangor from the 5th to 12th July.

#### Queen's Institute of District Nursing

The local health authority is in membership with the Queen's Institute of District Nursing.

This authority is also a member of the North Western Federation of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, and the Chairman of the Home Nursing Sub-Committee (Councillor Ethel Rothwell), Mr. T. E. C. Crozier, and the Medical Officer of Health represented the authority at meetings of the Federation.

There is approval for one student nurse to be appointed under the scheme of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing for the training of district nurses. Mr. F. Higgins, S.R.N., was authorised to attend the course in Manchester from the 2nd September to the 31st December. He was subsequently placed on the Queen's Roll of District Nurses.

#### Work Undertaken 1895

There were 2,254 cases (812 males and 1,356 females) nursed and 61,498 visits made by the district nurses to these cases during the year. These figures compare with 2,259 cases (858 males and 1,401 females) nursed and 56,611 visits made by district nurses during the previous year.

There was a slight decrease in the number of new cases accepted compared with the previous year, these having decreased from 1,858 to 1,827. The number of injections, i.e., penicillin, insulin, liver, vitamin, streptomycin, mersalyl and cytamin again increased, the total number being 24,706 compared with 21,105 in the previous year, an increase of 3,601 injections.

#### Cases Nursed and Visits Made

	Children		Others		Total No. of Cases
	0-5	5-15	Male	Female	
Cases on books at 1st Jan.	2	...	126	299	427
New cases.....	47	37	686	1057	1827
Total cases nursed during the year.....	49	37	812	1356	2254
Cases on books at 31st Dec.	1	2	139	359	501

The following table summarises the cases nursed and visits made by the district nurses during each month of the year:—

	Children		Others		Total No. of Cases	Visits by District Nurses
	0-5	5-15	Male	Female		
January ...	4	5	181	393	583	5006
February ...	9	3	183	392	587	4815
March ...	12	6	178	408	604	5034
April ...	4	4	179	406	593	4818
May ...	4	8	191	408	611	5304
June ...	2	3	183	388	576	4794
July ...	5	4	184	391	584	4770
August ...	5	1	165	401	572	5081
September ...	5	1	175	418	599	5044
October ...	4	1	201	446	652	5686
November ...	9	6	195	432	642	5423
December ...	10	4	200	451	665	5723



## New Cases Accepted During Each Month of the Year

Age Groups	0-1		1-5		5-15		15-40		40-60		60-65		65+		TOTALS	
Month	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Jan	1	...	...	1	2	3	7	13	8	25	6	7	34	49	58	98
Feb.	...	...	3	4	2	1	6	17	14	15	4	11	33	49	62	97
Mar.	1	1	3	3	3	1	8	11	12	23	4	8	28	44	59	91
April	...	...	1	1	4	...	...	11	14	29	12	8	32	39	63	88
May	1	...	...	2	4	1	5	12	16	15	9	9	37	48	72	87
June	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	15	11	15	4	3	29	37	48	70
July	...	...	2	2	1	2	7	10	6	14	6	8	39	35	61	71
Aug.	...	1	...	1	1	...	3	12	9	16	3	12	21	44	37	86
Sept.	...	...	1	...	...	1	4	11	17	28	6	6	31	42	59	88
Oct.	...	...	1	1	1	...	4	16	17	24	12	8	38	61	73	110
Nov.	...	1	3	4	1	4	10	14	14	19	4	9	38	57	70	108
Dec.	2	1	4	1	2	1	6	16	13	24	5	7	38	51	70	101
Totals	5	4	18	20	23	14	62	158	151	247	75	96	398	556	732	1095

The following table is a summary of the types of cases nursed and the visits paid to these cases during the year:—

	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Maternal Complications	Others	Totals	Patients included in (2) - (7) who were 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year	Children included in (2) - (7) who were under 5 at the time of the first visit during the year	Patient included in (2) - (7) who had more than 2 visits during the year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Number of Cases attended...	1640	315	1	19	2	277	2254	1155	46	54
Number of Visits paid ...	49129	10885	4	604	50	826	61498	6539	216	971

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

### (Section 26)

#### Immunisation Against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

From the 1st January immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus was made available. The material used was: diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus prophylactic (Triple Antigen Glaxo).

Throughout the year the materials used and the dosage given were as follows:—

Protection	Age Group	Material Used	Dosage
Diphtheria, Whooping Cough & Tetanus	0-10 yrs.	Diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus-prophylactic, (Triple Antigen Glaxo)	Three injections of 1.0 c.c. at intervals of four weeks
Combined Diphtheria & Whooping Cough			
(a) Primary Immunisation.	0-5 yrs.	Suspended diphtheria-pertussis (Glaxo).	Three injections of 1.0 c.c. at intervals of four weeks
(b) Re-inforcing Injection	5-10 yrs.	Suspended diphtheria-pertussis (Glaxo).	One injection of 1.0 c.c.
Diphtheria			
(a) Primary Immunisation	0-10 yrs.	A.P.T. F. T.	Two injections i.e. 0.2 c.c. and 0.5 c.c. with an interval of 4 weeks between injections
	10 yrs. and over	T.A.F.	Three injections of 1 c.c. at intervals of four weeks
(b) Re-inforcing Injections	5-10 yrs.	A.P.T.	One injection of 0.5 c.c.
	10 yrs. & over	T.A.F.	One injection of 1.0 c.c.
Whooping Cough	0-5 yrs.	Suspended whooping cough vaccine (Glaxo)	Three injections of 1.0 c.c. at intervals of 4 weeks

All prophylactic is supplied to general practitioners free of charge and can be obtained on application to the department.

Immunisation of pre-school children is carried out at the child welfare centres, the day nurseries, and at nursery schools and classes.

At the school entrance examination, the immunisation state of each child is reviewed and parents are reminded of the importance of "reinforcing" injections and the immediate need to give consent for the first "reinforcing" injection to be given. Parents of children who have



not received a primary course of injections prior to entering school are again reminded of the dangers of diphtheria and the urgent need for immunisation of their children. With the consent of the parents, arrangements are made for these children to receive the necessary injections as early as possible after the medical examination. Where the number of consents received from any one school is sufficiently large, a special session is arranged at the school and parents are invited to be present. In all other cases appointments are made for the children to attend along with their parents if desired at the Gower Street or Scottfield Clinics according to the school they attend.

Visits are made periodically to each junior school to ascertain the immunisation state of the children attending and the second reinforcing injection is offered to all children over the age of 10 years according to their immunisation state, and, at the same time, the parents of those children who are found not to have received any protection at all, or who have not at this age received the first reinforcing injection, are again reminded of the urgent need for such injections to be given, and with the consent of the parents the necessary arrangements are made.

Under these arrangements parents are constantly reminded of the dangers of diphtheria and of the facilities available for the protection of their children against this disease.

The following tables summarise:—

**I—The number of children completing the full primary course of diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus protection.**

Age in Years	Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	Total under 15 yrs.
Sessional arrangements	351	103	34	38	53	69	2	650
Private Practitioners...	182	58	17	7	8	13	2	287
Totals ...	533	161	51	45	61	82	4	937

**II—The number of children completing the full primary course of combined diphtheria and whooping cough protection and those receiving a reinforcing injection.**

Age in Years	Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	Total under 15 yrs.
(a) Primary Immunisation.								
Sessional Arrangements	83	68	26	9	5	1	—	192
Private Practitioners...	122	79	17	11	4	3	1	237
Totals ...	205	147	43	20	9	4	1	429
(b) Reinforcing Injections.								1356
Sessional Arrangements	—	—	—	1	225	386	—	612
Private Practitioners...	—	—	—	3	54	80	—	137
Totals ...	—	—	—	4	279	466	—	749

III—The number of children completing the full primary course of immunisation against diphtheria only and those receiving a reinforcing injection.

Age in Years	Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	Total under 15 yrs.
<b>(a) Primary Immunisation</b>								
Sessional Arrangements	3	1	2	1	16	92	32	147
Private Practittoners	2	2	1	—	—	1	—	6
Totals ...	5	3	3	1	16	93	32	153
<b>(b) Reinforcing Injections</b>								
Sessional Arrangements	—	—	—	—	41	119	416	576
Private Practitioners	—	—	—	—	10	25	29	64
Totals ...	—	—	—	—	51	144	445	640

The following is a summary of the children protected against: Diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus throughout the year and those receiving reinforcing injections:—

<b>Primary Immunisation</b>	Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	Ttl. under 15 yrs.
(a) Diphtheria .....	743	311	97	66	86	179	37	1,519
(b) Whooping Cough	738	308	94	65	70	86	5	1,266
(c) Tetanus .....	533	161	51	45	61	82	4	937
<b>Reinforcing Injections</b>	Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	Ttl. under 15 yrs.
(a) Diphtheria .....	—	—	—	4	330	610	445	1,389
(b) Whooping Cough	—	—	—	4	279	466	—	749

#### Vaccination Against Smallpox

Vaccination of infants is now undertaken at the Queen Street Infant Welfare Centre. The number of children under one year of age vaccinated during the year was 754 giving a percentage of 39.37 of the total births.

During the year 133 children of school age received primary vaccination and 52 were revaccinated. These figures include 44 primary vaccinations and 32 revaccinations of children who were offered vaccination prior to leaving school.

At the periodic examination of school entrants information is obtained regarding the state of vaccination of the children examined. During the year, of 1,721 children examined only 479 (27.83 per cent) were found to have been vaccinated against smallpox. This compares with 30.83 per cent for the previous year.

The following table indicates the number of persons of all ages vaccinated and revaccinated;—



Age at date of vaccination in years	Under 1 yr.	1 year	2-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15+ yrs.	Totals
<b>Primary Vaccinations.</b>						
Sessional Arrangements	292	17	16	59	4	388
Private Practitioners ...	462	63	69	74	127	795
Assistant Medical Officers	—	—	—	—	13*	13*
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>754</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>1196</b>
<b>Re-Vaccinations.</b>						
Sessional Arrangements	—	—	—	39	13	52
Private Practitioners ...	—	—	11	13	235	259
Assistant Medical Officers	—	—	—	—	113*	113*
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>424</b>

\*These figures relate to members of the staff who were vaccinated or re-vaccinated by reason of their duties and possible contact with cases of smallpox.

Supplies of lymph are available to all general practitioners on direct application to the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Newton Heath, Manchester, 10 (Telephone: COLlyhurst 2733).

### Poliomyelitis Vaccination

In 1956, poliomyelitis vaccination was made available to children born in the years 1947 to 1954 (inclusive). The vaccine was in such limited supply that only selected groups of children within this age range could be protected. These groups were selected centrally and Medical Officers of Health advised accordingly. At the beginning of the year advice was received from the Ministry of Health that regular supplies of vaccine should be available and Medical Officers of Health were given authority to make their own selection of age groups.

In May, poliomyelitis vaccination was offered to the following additional groups:—

Children born in the years 1955 and 1956.

Children born in the years 1947 to 1954 (inclusive) who had not hitherto been registered.

In November, further extensions of the vaccination programme were announced and local health authorities were now asked to make a continued offer of vaccination to:—

Children born in the years 1943 to 1946 (inclusive).

Children born in 1957 who had reached the age of 6 months.

Expectant mothers.

Local health authorities were advised that the supply of British vaccine had been increased but, to enable the extended programme to be carried out it was necessary to supplement the British supply by importing Salk Vaccine manufactured in Canada and the United States of America. Before use, this vaccine would be required to pass the same safety and other tests which were being applied to the British vaccine. Parents who refused Salk vaccine should be given an opportunity to have their children

vaccinated at a later date with British vaccine though it was not possible to say when this would be. No priority was to be given to any particular age group apart from those children remaining to be vaccinated from the original registrations. This extended offer of vaccination was made to parents and they were also given the choice to have the vaccination carried out by their own doctor if they so desired. A personal letter was addressed to parents of all children in attendance at school, and these were distributed through the head teachers, who gave their full co-operation. No children for whom consent was given from this most recent offer had been vaccinated at the end of the year.

Vaccination was not suspended during the year.

The only vaccine supplied and used was "Polivirin" (Glaxo), the dosage given being two injections of 1.0c.c. with an interval between injections of not less than three weeks.

The following table details the children who completed vaccination:—

Year of Birth	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	Total
Number vaccinated with two injections	560	519	461	428	349	215	287	221	114	—	3154

**AMBULANCE SERVICE**  
(Section 27)

The total number of cases removed was 50,298, which compares with 46,886 in the previous year, an increase of 3,412. The mileage run, 254,970, which includes a mileage of 38,612 in connection with other services, shows an increase of 8,863 miles. The area served includes the Saddleworth district of the West Riding.

Although the number of patients conveyed during the year increased by 3,412, the actual patient mileage increased by only 3,127 miles to 191,712 miles. In 1956 the mileage per patient was 4.02, but in 1957 this dropped to 3.82.

It is not considered that there has been any extravagant use of the Ambulance Service, and there is satisfactory co-operation with the hospital staffs.

The following figures indicate the number of cases removed:—

	Ambulance	Dual-Purpose Vehicle	Total
Oldham County Borough .....	16,068	30,067	46,135
West Riding County Council .....	1,259	2,689	3,948
Lancashire County Council .....	210	3	213
Other Authorities .....	—	2	2
	<hr/> 17,537 <hr/>	<hr/> 32,761 <hr/>	<hr/> 50,298 <hr/>

The figures for Lancashire County Council relate to removals following misdirected "999" calls.

In addition to the above, 16 cases were removed by train, the rail fare of an escort being provided in 9 cases.



The number of cases removed in the County Borough area has again increased, the total number being 46,135 compared with 43,032 in the previous year, an increase of 3,103. As in previous years, the increase is almost entirely in cases removed by "sitting-case" vehicles.

Transport is provided for patients attending the Psychiatric Out-Patients' Department at the Oldham and District General Hospital and "day care" patients attending the Psychiatric Unit. Sitting-case vehicles are used for this service and the following mileage was involved:—

"Day care" patients .....	16,448 miles
Out-patients .....	2,021 miles

The conveyance of patients to and from the Out-patient Department at the Geriatric Unit involved a mileage of 18,904 miles.

Since the establishment of a Burns and Scalds Unit at the Booth Hall Hospital, Manchester, all children suffering from burns and scalds are conveyed direct to this Unit and during the year 34 children were removed.

In accordance with the National Health Service (Amendment) Act, a number of removals involving 300 miles were effected by other authorities for the County Borough of Oldham, and in 16 cases a charge was made for these removals.

The majority of journeys outside the Borough are to hospitals in the Manchester area. Journeys beyond these limits are not numerous and long distance journeys (over 100 miles) are comparatively rare and whenever possible, the patient is conveyed by rail. There were 80 single journeys over 25 miles but under 50 miles, 19 single journeys over 50 miles but under 100 miles, and 2 long distance journeys over 100 miles.

On the 1st January, the fleet consisted of 10 ambulances and 8 sitting-case vehicles, two of the ambulances being used exclusively for civil defence training.

The following vehicles were taken into service during the year:—

July— One Bedford/Lomas small sitting-case vehicle.  
August—Two Bedford/Lomas ambulances.

During the year 5 ambulances were removed from service:—

CBU 364	EBU 536	FBU 35
FBU 762	FBU 552	

Ambulance FBU 552 was purchased by the Civil Defence Committee.

On the 31st December the fleet consisted of 7 ambulances and 9 sitting-case vehicles.

All ambulances are fitted with radio-telephone equipment.

At the Annual Conference of the National Association of Ambulance Officers held in London during September, 1956, a new type of resuscitator (the Stephenson Minuteman Resuscitator) was demonstrated. Arrangements were made for a demonstration to be made to the Health Committee and resulted in the purchase of 6 of these resuscitators to be used in the Ambulance Service. These machines were delivered during June and proved invaluable throughout the remainder of the year in dealing with unconscious patients and various other emergencies.

Driver/Attendants are entered each year for the National Safe-Driving Competition of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. At the end of the year, out of 27 driver/attendants eligible, 24 had qualified for an award, 13 received the Annual Diploma, 2 the 5-year bronze medal, and 9 received a bar to the 5-year bronze medal; 3 driver/attendants did not qualify due to sickness.

### **Arrangements with Adjacent Health Authorities**

#### **West Riding County Council**

By agreement with the West Riding County Council, the Oldham Ambulance Service accepts and removes all accident, emergency and infectious cases arising in the Saddleworth area, with the exception of the occasional case which occurs in the areas remote from Oldham and proximate to Huddersfield, which is usually removed by one of the County Ambulances based at Huddersfield. Payment for work done is based on a rate per mile which is determined at the end of each financial year.

#### **Lancashire County Council**

Owing to the overlapping of telephone areas, a number of "999" calls originating in the County area are still being misdirected to the Oldham Ambulance Depot. In the interests of all concerned, these calls are accepted by the Oldham Service and the County Council has agreed on a payment of £2 for each removal.

In view of the demands and increasing costs, the Health Committee requested that the payment be increased to £4 for each removal.

### **Transport for Other Services**

#### **(1) Midwives' Service**

For normal routine duties, midwives who do not own their own cars use public transport. For urgent cases during the day and when analgesic apparatus is required, a car is requested from the Cleansing and Transport Department. At all other times over the week-end the Ambulance Service is responsible for providing transport for the midwives. A Ford Prefect car is used for this work, the vehicle being garaged at the Ambulance Depot and driven by a driver/attendant. The mileage incurred in connection with this service was 20,358 miles, compared with 19,222 miles for the previous year.

#### **(2) Home Nursing**

The district nurses use public transport, but at week-ends and in exceptional circumstances, e.g., shortage of staff, or extraordinary pressure of work, transport is provided by the Ambulance Service. A total mileage of 2,448 miles was involved compared with 1,967 miles for the previous year.

Four auto-cycles are used by the district nurses. These were supplied with petrol and oil, and were maintained by the mechanics at the Depot until November, when the maintenance was transferred to the Cleansing and Transport Department.



### (3) Mental Health Service

Regular transport has been provided throughout the year for the conveyance of children to and from the Creche and the Haven Lane Training Centre. Males and females attending the Arthurs and Alice A. Kenyon Industrial Centres are encouraged to make their own way by public transport, but where they are unable to do so owing to their disability, they are conveyed to and from the Centres by sitting-case vehicles.

The total mileage run was 36,050 miles, which compares with 31,687 miles for the previous year.

The service provides emergency transport for the mental health officers, who are also duly authorised officers.

462 miles were run on behalf of the Inskip League and 177 miles were run on behalf of the Hospital Management Committee.

The following statistics relate to the work of the Ambulance Service during the year and include removals undertaken for the West Riding of Yorkshire and other authorities:—

	Ambulances	Sitting-case vehicles	Total
Number of vehicles at			
31st December .....	7	9	16
Number of patients carried .....	17,537	32,761	50,298
Number of accident and			
other removals .....	3,906	144	4,050
Total mileage .....	70,783	184,187	254,970

(The mileage shown includes journeys in connection with other services).

### Civil Defence

The sectional training of Civil Defence volunteers has continued throughout the year.

In May one Station Officer attended the Ambulance and Casualty Collecting Section course at the Home Office School at Falfield, Gloucester, and in November the Deputy Ambulance Officer attended a similar course. Both officers obtained a Functional Certificate.

The Civil Defence Committee now owns the ambulance FBU 552, which is used for training purposes.

### National Ambulance Competition

The Oldham Ambulance Service entered a team in the No. 1 Region of the National Ambulance Competition held at Southport on September 1st. Nine teams were entered and the Oldham team was placed second to Blackburn County Borough team, and this team subsequently obtained second place in the National finals at Ryton-on-Dunsmore.

### National Health Service (Amendment) Act, 1957

The National Health Service (Amendment) Act, 1957, empowered local Health Authorities to make ambulance transport available for use, on repayment, for the conveyance of persons suffering from illness in circumstances not covered by Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

## PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE (Section 28)

### Tuberculosis

Details of notified cases and other statistics relating to tuberculosis are given in the Infectious Diseases Section of the Report.

There has been no change in the staffing arrangements. Dr. H. S. Bagshaw, Chest Physician, undertakes duties in connection with Prevention and After-Care and the Tuberculosis Health Visitors assist at the Chest Clinic sessions. Dr. Bagshaw is also available for regular consultation on problems which arise in connection with tuberculous patients. These arrangements provide for co-operation between the preventive and curative services.

The supply of milk to patients attending the Chest Clinic and in need of extra nourishment has been continued. During the year 29 individual patients were issued with 197 orders for the supply of free milk. Each order permits the supply of milk for the period of four weeks, and 103 orders were for two pints per day and 94 orders for one pint per day.

On the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health the Housing Committee gives re-housing priority to cases of pulmonary tuberculosis with a positive sputum and certain other cases receive some degree of priority. During the year priority recommendations were made in respect of 8 cases. There were 6 families re-housed under this arrangement.

### Mass Miniature Radiography

The Manchester Regional Hospital Board have mobile mass miniature radiography units which serve the area, but a unit did not visit the Borough during the year.

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 64/50, Home Office Circular 228/50 and Ministry of Education Circular 248, staff requiring X-ray examination prior to engagement and at regular intervals are referred to a Mass Miniature Radiography Unit for an X-ray of the chest. Unfortunately no Unit was in the vicinity during the year and any necessary X-ray examinations were undertaken by the staff of the Chest Clinic.

In almost all cases the X-ray examination of entrants to courses of training for teaching is undertaken by the Mass Miniature Radiography Service of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board and in only occasional cases is it necessary for this examination to be made at a hospital or chest clinic and a charge incurred.

### B.C.G. Vaccination

The following arrangements are in operation:—

**Vaccination of Contacts.** — The vaccination of selected contacts of known tuberculosis cases in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 72/49 has been continued. The arrangements are under the control and supervision of Dr. H. S. Bagshaw, Chest Physician. During the year 106 children (62 boys, 44 girls) and 4 adults (males) who were found to be Mantoux negative, received vaccination. Subsequent Mantoux tests were positive.



**Vaccination of School Children.** — In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 22/53 the vaccination of older school children has been continued. The parents of children who would reach 13 during the year were offered B.C.G. vaccination. The arrangements are under the control of the Medical Officer of Health and medical officers who have received special instruction in B.C.G. vaccination undertake these duties.

The following figures relate to the work undertaken during the year:—

No. of children offered B.C.G. ....	1,535
No. of acceptances .....	1,039
Percentage accepting .....	67
No. excluded on medical grounds .....	11
No. completing skin testing .....	991
No. positive .....	171
Percentage positive .....	17
No. negative .....	820
No. receiving vaccination .....	814

#### Medical Research Council

This large scale clinical trial referred to in previous reports has continued throughout the year. Oldham is one of the authorities participating in the trial, the volunteers being young adults who left secondary modern schools during the 18 months September, 1951, to March, 1953.

During the year, the Unit visited the Borough in February and August to make follow-up examinations of the young adults already admitted to the scheme and 560 attended. These examinations were carried out by the Medical Research Council's Mass Radiography Unit at the Community Centre, Clegg Street. The volunteers were asked to attend between 4-30 p.m. and 8 p.m.

The Medical Research Council provides the medical, radiological and clerical staffs and the Mobile X-ray unit but the nursing staff of the School Health Service undertakes the home visiting.

The Health Visitors and School Nurses are assisting in the follow-up and during the year visited the homes of the volunteers in order to complete the follow-up reports.

I am indebted to Dr. G. S. Hunter, Physician-in-Charge of the Unit, for the following report:—

“The Tuberculosis Vaccine Clinical Trial in which Oldham Local Health Authority are co-operating with the Medical Research Council continued throughout 1957. The young people in Oldham who are taking part joined the scheme while they were still at school during 1951 and 1952; they are now 19 to 21 years old. One thousand volunteers originally joined the scheme, and, of these, well over 700 still live in Oldham. Some of the rest have left the area, but the majority of the absentees are on National Service with the Armed Forces.

Each of the participants in the trial still living in Oldham was visited during the year by a Health Visitor and each was invited to attend the Medical Research Council's mobile mass radiography unit. This unit visited the Community Centre, Clegg Street, in February and again in August. In February the attendance was less than in previous years. Special efforts were made by the Medical Officer of Health and his staff to increase the attendance in August. The Health Visitors made an extra visit to the defaulters; employers were approached by the Medical Officer of Health and gave valuable help; and a car service was arranged for some of the defaulters by Health Visitors, the Women's Voluntary Service, and the Medical Research Council staff.

As a result of these efforts very nearly 60 per cent of our volunteers attended during the year; three-quarters of these came in August, when the total attendance exceeded 300.

There has been close collaboration in this investigation between the Medical Officer of Health and his staff and the Medical Research Council. It is a great pleasure to acknowledge the energetic help given by the Oldham Authorities in this national research project.

As regards the trial itself, no fresh progress report was issued in 1957. The report of 1956 showed that the protection from the vaccines against tuberculosis lasted for at least four years after the vaccination was given. How much longer this protection will last cannot be decided until this trial has continued for a few more years.

Although B.C.G. can make a substantial contribution to the control and prevention of tuberculosis, other methods are also of paramount importance. The provision of B.C.G. vaccination for the school-leaving population does not mean that efforts in other directions aimed at the prevention of tuberculosis can be relaxed."

#### Co-operation With Voluntary Associations

No specific duties have been delegated to voluntary organisations.

The Home Nursing Sub-Committee made a grant of £5 5s. 0d. for the financial year 1957-58 to the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis in support of the general work which the Association undertakes in the fight against tuberculosis.

No patients were admitted to tuberculosis colonies during the year. A male aged 46 years (admitted 1950) continued to remain in the East Lancashire Tuberculosis Colony, Great Barrow, near Chester. A female aged 27 years (admitted 1947 to Papworth Village Settlement) commenced training there in February 1956 under the Ministry of Labour Training Scheme and the patient was still undergoing training at the end of the year.

#### Mental Illness or Defectiveness

The arrangements for the care and after-care of persons suffering from mental illness or defectiveness are fully described in the Mental Health Section of this report. In a few cases special walking frames have been supplied to assist the defective to learn to walk and become ambulant.



### Other Types of Illness

There has been co-operation between the hospital staffs and the officers of the department, and requests were received for information with regard to patients. Assistance has been given through the Home Nursing and Domestic Help Services to patients discharged from hospital.

### Provision of Nursing Requisites and Apparatus

#### (a) By the Local Health Authority

##### (i) Tuberculous Cases

Nursing requisites are available through the Chest Clinic. During the year, 11 patients received nursing requisites and at the end of the year 17 patients were receiving this assistance. The following table shows the items issued during the year, and the equipment on loan at the 31st December:—

Item	No. issued during the year	No. on loan at 31st Dec.
Beds .....	3	8
Mattresses .....	7	3
Mattress Covers .....	7	3
Blankets .....	21	11
Pillows .....	14	28
Urinals .....	1	1
Bed Pans .....	1	1
Air-rings .....	1	2
Rubber Sheets .....	-	-
Sheets .....	-	3

##### (ii) Maternity Cases

The arrangements with the Midwives' Service for the loan of nursing requisites required for the mother and her baby have been continued. Beds, mattresses, blankets, pillows, cot sheets, cot blankets, bed pans, air-rings, hot water bottles, and nightdresses are available.

##### (iii) Other Cases

The St. John Ambulance Brigade loan nursing requisites to general medical and surgical cases and the Local Health Authority supplies beds, bedding and fire guards in special cases.

#### (a) By Voluntary Organisations

##### (i) St. John Ambulance Brigade (Oldham Corps), Medical Comforts Depot, Park Road, Oldham.

General medical and surgical cases in need of nursing requisites can obtain these through the Medical Comforts Depot. Nursing requisites are obtained on the certificate of a medical practitioner and the Brigade have agreed to make available such items of equipment as the Medical Officer of Health may consider necessary. A deposit is charged when an article is loaned, but this is refunded on its return. The depot is open Monday to Friday from 7-30 p.m. to 9 p.m. During the year 502 patients received assistance and 644 articles were loaned. The following table shows the items issued during the year and the equipment on loan at the 31st December:—

Item	No. issued during the year	No. on loan at 31st Dec.
Air-rings .....	60	66
Bed cradles .....	11	9
Bed pans .....	150	70
Bed rests .....	75	40
Bed tables .....	5	8
Commodes .....	13	14
Crutches (pairs) .....	11	12
Enamel bowls and dishes	4	-
Feeding cups .....	11	12
Invalid chairs .....	38	12
Rubber sheets .....	169	80
Sorbo beds .....	-	1
Splints & fracture boards	8	6
Sputum mugs .....	3	3
Urinals .....	75	70
Walking sticks .....	13	8
Water beds .....	1	2

For the financial year 1957-58 the Home Nursing Sub-Committee reimbursed the Brigade in respect of all establishment charges incurred at the Medical Comforts Depot and made a grant of £60 for the replacement of nursing requisites.

(ii) Oldham and District Health Services  
Contributory Association.

The Home Nursing Sub-Committee made a grant of £25 to this Association in respect of the financial year 1957-58 for the facilities they provide for the loan of nursing equipment and convalescence.

### Convalescence

No complete scheme for convalescence has been approved by the Health Committee, but it has been agreed that in special circumstances cases may be recommended to the Committee for consideration. No cases were sent under these arrangements during the year.

The Local Education Authority have arrangements for providing convalescence for school children, suitable cases being recommended through the School Health Service. During the year 5 children (2 girls and 3 boys) were sent for a period of convalescence under these arrangements.

The Education Committee again agreed to provide diabetic children with two weeks' holiday at a holiday camp sponsored by the Diabetic Association. Arrangements were made for one girl, aged 14 years, to attend one of these camps for a two weeks holiday, but unfortunately she was admitted to hospital and unable to attend.



## DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

### (Section 29)

The Domestic Help Organiser is responsible to the Medical Officer of Health for the general supervision of the service.

In January, approval was given for the establishment to be increased by one junior clerk and a forewoman to supervise the day to day work of the domestic helps. This increase in the establishment has enabled the Organiser to devote more time to her duties in the field, and during the year she was able to visit almost all the new applicants for help and also to do a number of special re-visits. She is now better able to assess the problem and can select the most suitable domestic help and advise her on any special problems. During the year the Organiser made 595 visits compared with 339 in the previous year.

The following figures show the number of domestic helps employed at the beginning and at the end of the year:—

	1st Jan.	31st Dec.
Whole-time (30 hours or more per week) ...	22	18
Part-time (under 30 hours per week) .....	78	53

At the beginning of the year the full charge was 3s. 4d. per hour; this was increased to 3s. 8d. per hour, with effect from the 29th April, following a wage award of the North Western Whitley Council for manual workers.

All cases are assessed according to income and the applicants advised of the proposed charge. Persons wishing to appeal against the assessment may do so and the appeals are submitted for review to a Special Section of the Home Nursing Sub-Committee.

Domestic help is provided free of charge to blind and tuberculous persons. Persons entitled to national assistance and having the services of a domestic help, are assessed in the normal manner and an arrangement has been agreed with the Board whereby the amount assessed is recovered from the user.

In spite of every effort to stabilise the service, the upward spiral in the number of new cases continued, with a consequent increasing cost. It was decided that wherever possible the hours per week per case should be reduced and in many cases help is now only provided fortnightly. In addition, new applicants for routine and continued assistance are very carefully selected, and if relatives are available help through the service is not granted. This strict scrutiny has resulted in a slight reduction in the number of new cases accepted (442 compared with 465 in the previous year), and an increase in the cases cancelled, which totalled 472 compared with 348 in the previous year.

The total cases assisted, 1,133, compare with 1,039 cases for the previous year. This increase is again mainly due to the assistance given to cases of old age and sickness.

The following table summarises the cases receiving assistance:—

Type of Case	Cases on books at 1st Jan.	New Cases	Total Cases Receiving Assistance	Cases Cancelled	Cases on books at 31st Dec.
Sickness	48	61	109	62	47
Maternity Cases	—	23	23	21	2
Tuberculosis	3	1	4	2	2
Old Age & Sickness	601	343	944	375	<del>559</del> 569
Blind	39	14	53	12	41
Totals:	691	442	1,133	472	661

#### Night attendants

The arrangements for the provision of a night attendant in cases where a patient is acutely ill or living alone, or where the relatives need some temporary night help, have been continued.

At the beginning of the year, the charge for this service was 18s. 6d. per session. This charge was increased to 21s. 0d. per night session as from the 29th April, following a wage award. This amount is recoverable from the patient, but as the majority of cases receiving this assistance are old age pensioners, in only a few cases can the full charge be made.

There were 4 night attendants who undertook regular duties and additional assistance was obtained when there was heavy demand on the service.

Number of cases .....	55..
Number of "night sessions" .....	246.

These figures compare with 69 cases and 415 "night sessions" for the previous year.

#### Modification of Proposals—Night Attendants' Service

This service has been provided since 1949, but in November authority was requested for formal modification of the Council's proposals under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, by the addition of the following paragraph:—

"The authority intends to make available a night attendants' service in the case of illness and for infirm old people, where no other arrangements can be made and the alternative would be institutional care."



## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

All matters relating to Mental Health and Mental Deficiency are referred to the Mental Health Sub-Committee of the Health Committee.

The Council have appointed the Mental Health Sub-Committee a special committee under Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 1933, and delegated to the Sub-Committee all the powers of the local health authority under paragraphs (a), (b), (d) and (f) of Section 30 of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913 (as amended by subsequent Acts). All other proceedings of the Sub-Committee are subject to confirmation by the Health Committee and the Council.

The Medical Officer of Health is responsible for the administration of the service and is assisted by the Medical Officers of the Department and the Lay Administrative Officer.

### Staff

#### Medical Staff

Dr. W. R. Faleoner terminated his appointment during the year and was replaced by Dr. H. Bailey to undertake special clinical duties in the department, and this officer, together with Dr. J. Starkie, Senior Assistant Medical Officer, is approved by the Authority for the purposes of the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938. These officers are also approved by the Minister of Health for the purposes of making recommendations under Sections 1 (3) and 5 (3) of the Mental Treatment Act, 1930.

The services of Dr. G. S. Robertson, Medical Superintendent, Calderstones Hospital, and Consultant in Mental Deficiency, Oldham Hospital Group, are available to the Local Health Authority, and his opinion is always obtained in cases which present any difficulty or doubt.

Dr. Arthur Pool, Consultant Psychiatrist to the Oldham Hospital Group, is also Consultant Psychiatrist to the Local Health Authority.

#### Social Workers

In February, approval was received for an increase in establishment of one Mental Health Officer and Duly Authorised Officer. The following is now the approved establishment of social workers:—

Mental Health Officers, who also act as	
Duly Authorised Officers .....	4
Psychiatric Social Worker, or Mental	
Health Officer .....	1

At the beginning of the year, 4 Mental Health Officers were employed. In April, Mr. D. Cheetham was appointed Mental Health Officer and Duly Authorised Officer to fill the vacancy in the new establishment. In July, Mr. P. Hudson terminated his duties to take up the post of Social Welfare Officer to the County of Fifehire. In spite of repeated advertisements it was not possible to fill this vacancy.

There were 4 Mental Health Officers employed at the end of the year.

All Mental Health Officers are included as casual users in the Scheme of Motor Car Allowances for the Corporation.

### **Psychologist**

The establishment also provides for the appointment of a Psychologist. This officer undertakes duties in connection with the Child Guidance Clinic (two sessions per week), which is provided by the Education Committee, and by arrangement with the Oldham and District Hospital Management Committee, is the Psychologist to the Elizabeth Martland Unit.

### **Training Centre**

At the beginning of the year the establishment allowed for 1 Supervisor, 2 Assistant Supervisors, and 2 Domestic Helpers. In September, following the transfer of 18 trainees to the Industrial Centre, the establishment was reduced by one Assistant Supervisor.

### **Creche**

The establishment allows for the appointment of two attendants.

### **Industrial Centre**

The establishment for the Arthurs Centre for men allows for the appointment of one Senior Handicraft Instructor and one Handicraft Instructor (both males).

The establishment of the Alice A. Kenyon Centre for women allows for the appointment of one Senior Handicraft Instructress and one Handicraft Instructress.

### **Co-ordination with Regional Hospital Boards and Hospital Management Committees**

The staff of the Mental Health Service have received the fullest co-operation from the Consultant Psychiatrist of the Oldham Hospital Group and also from the Group Secretary, Mr. F. W. Barnett, who acts as Clerk.

Dr. G. S. Robertson, the Consultant in Mental Deficiency, visits Oldham when his services are required.

Dr. Arthur Pool, in his capacity as Consultant Psychiatrist to the Local Health Authority, holds a weekly case conference with the medical officers and all the mental health social workers when new cases are discussed and the problems and progress of other patients reviewed. This arrangement facilitates co-ordination between the hospital and preventive services.

The Mental Health Officers and the Psychologist undertake duties in the Elizabeth Martland Unit of the Oldham and District General Hospital, which is the responsibility of the hospital service. The Mental Health Officers visit the mental wards and assist with group and recreational therapy. The Management Committee reimburse the Health Committee the full cost of these services.

The Mental Health Officers have continued to supervise mental defectives on licence. They prepare all reports required in connection with these cases and any reports for cases whose orders for detention are subject to review under Section 11 of the Mental Deficiency Act.



The Mental Health Officers also prepare a detailed social history for patients suffering from mental illness and admitted to a Mental Hospital and this is forwarded to the hospital concerned shortly after the patient's admission. They prepare any further reports that may be required on home conditions prior to the patient's discharge if requested.

No direct representative of the Oldham and District Hospital Management Committee is co-opted on to the Mental Health Sub-Committee but five members of the Health Committee and the Medical Officer of Health are also members of the Committee.

### Co-operation with Voluntary Associations

No specific duties have been delegated to voluntary organisations.

One member of the Oldham Council for Mental Health is co-opted on to the Mental Health Sub-Committee and in May, the Health Committee appointed Miss A. Wrigley, as the member for the year 1957-58.

The Mental Health Sub-Committee made a grant of £25 for the financial year 1957-58 to the National Association for Mental Health.

### Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

The majority of patients are now being referred either to the Psychiatric Out-Patient Department or to the Mental Health Officers for advice rather than for immediate admission to hospital.

In a number of cases a domiciliary visit is arranged with the Consultant Psychiatrist—this is always done with the approval of the general practitioner—and on such visits a Mental Health Officer accompanies the Consultant.

There were 151 new cases referred to the Department during the year. Of these 65 required no action with regard to admission to hospital or attendance at the out-patient clinic, and their problems were resolved after discussion with the Consultant Psychiatrist and by follow-up visits. The disposal of the remaining 86 cases was as follows:—

Referred to Welfare Services Department	3
Referred to Consultant Geriatrician .....	1
Referred to Psychiatric Out-Patient Clinic	29
Admitted to Day Care .....	5
Admitted to Mental Hospitals .....	48

The 48 patients receiving treatment in mental hospitals were admitted as follows:—

Under Order (three day) .....	11
Under Order (fourteen day) .....	4
Under Summary Reception Orders .....	3
As voluntary patients .....	30

Following the admission of a patient to the Elizabeth Martland Unit or other mental hospital, arrangements are made for relatives to be referred to the Mental Health Officers for information and advice.

In accordance with the Mental Treatment Rules, 1948, details of all admissions, transfers or discharges from the Elizabeth Martland Unit are forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health. Similar information is received from other mental hospitals in respect of Oldham residents.

Many patients on discharge from hospital are recommended for after-care and if the patient is willing, the Mental Health Officers visit these cases. Their progress and any problems that may arise are reported to the Consultant Psychiatrist at his weekly case conference.

The following is a summary of the visits and reports made by the Mental Health Officers:—

Pre-care visits .....	951
After-care visits .....	1,016
Visits with Consultant .....	34
Ineffective visits .....	281
Social histories .....	84
Pre-discharge reports .....	2

#### Convalescence from Mental Illness

The Mental Health After-Care Association has been unable to secure premises for use as a Convalescent Home for patients suffering from mental illness and no facilities of this type are available in the region.

### LUNACY AND MENTAL TREATMENT ACTS, 1890-1930

#### Work undertaken by the Duly Authorised Officers

The Mental Health Officers, who are also appointed Duly Authorised Officers, have statutory duties under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts and take the initial proceedings for the removal of a patient requiring hospital care.

The services of these officers are available throughout the 24 hours, one officer being on rota duty for evening and weekend calls. The officer on duty can be contacted through the Police or the Central Admissions Bureau of the Oldham and District General Hospital.

The following is a summary of the work undertaken as Duly Authorised Officers:—

(A) Admissions and Removals to Hospital .....	54
(a) Lunacy Act, 1890, Section 16 (Summary Reception Order)	
Elizabeth Martland Unit .....	10
(b) Criminal Lunatics Act, 1884, Section 7 (2)	
Elizabeth Martland Unit .....	1
(c) Magistrates' Court Act, 1952, Section 30	
Prestwich Hospital .....	1
(d) Lunacy Act, 1890, Section 20 (3 day order)	
Elizabeth Martland Unit .....	17*
Prestwich Hospital .....	2
	—
	31
	—



(c) Lunacy Act, 1890, Section 21 (14 day order)	
Elizabeth Martland Unit .....	23†
(f) Mental Treatment Act, 1930, Section 5 .....	0
(B) Completion of Orders for Further Detention .....	0
* Including 2 non-residents.	† Including 1 non-resident.

### Facilities for Treatment

#### Out-Patient Treatment

Clinics are held daily in the Psychiatric Out-Patient Department of the Oldham and District General Hospital. A considerable amount of E.C.T. treatment is given to out-patients and two sessions a week are allocated for this treatment.

#### Day Care

Patients are admitted for day care to the Elizabeth Martland Unit, Oldham and District General Hospital, and to the Psychiatric Ward at Westhulme Hospital.

Arrangements exist for selected patients who are considered suitable to be admitted for day care. The transport is provided by the Ambulance Service, a sitting-case car being used, which calls for the patients during the morning and returns them home in the late afternoon or early evening.

On 1st January, 17 patients (4 males, 13 females) were receiving day care and during the year 32 patients (18 males, 14 females) were admitted, making a total of 49 patients (22 males, 27 females) who received care in 1957.

On 31st December, there were 16 patients (5 males, 11 females) still attending for day care.

The following is a summary of the 33 cases (17 males, 16 females) ceasing to receive day care during the year:—

- (1) Admitted to the Elizabeth Martland Unit—9 (3 males, 6 females).
- (2) Admitted to Westhulme Hospital—4 (1 male, 3 females).
- (3) Died—5 (3 males, 2 females).
- (4) Discharged or discontinued—15 (10 males, 5 females).

#### In-Patient Treatment

The majority of patients requiring hospital treatment are admitted to the Elizabeth Martland Unit, Oldham and District General Hospital. This Unit is a designated mental hospital and modern methods of therapy are undertaken both in the Unit and in the Psychiatric Out-Patient Department of the hospital.

No difficulty has been experienced in securing the admission of mental cases to hospital and in all cases of acute urgency, admission was readily effected.

A limited number of beds are also available in the Psychiatric Ward at Westhulme Hospital. Patients are admitted without formality.

During the year there were 79 new cases admitted and 87 re-admissions (relating to 47 old patients) of Oldham residents notified to the department.

Hospital	Admissions (including re-admissions)			Total
	Under Order	Voluntary Patients	Temporary Patients	
Elizabeth Martland Unit ...	48	112	—	160
Prestwich Hospital .....	3	1	—	4
Middlewood Hospital .....	1	—	—	1
Fairfield Hospital .....	—	1	—	1
	—	—	—	—
Total .....	52	114	—	166
	—	—	—	—

Notification was received of 14 Oldham residents who died in Mental Hospitals and of 156 discharges.

Information was received of 46 patients detained in hospital who were transferred to voluntary status (Elizabeth Martland Unit 44; Prestwich 2).

Information was also received of 1 patient who was transferred under Section 64 of the Lunacy Act, 1890, by two members of the Hospital Management Committee authorising the removal of the patient. The following are details of the case:—

Elizabeth Martland Unit to Prestwich Hospital ... 1

#### National Health Service (Amendment) Act, 1949

In conjunction with the majority of Local Health Authorities in the North West, this Authority has agreed to a "knock-for-knock" arrangement in connection with the payment of medical practitioner fees for the certification of patients admitted to the Elizabeth Martland Unit from addresses outside the area of this authority.

During the year no Summary Reception Orders relating to non-residents were completed by the Duly Authorised Officers.

#### Ambulance Service

The Ambulance Service is utilised for the removal of patients to mental deficiency and mental hospitals. The Mental Health Officers have authority to request an ambulance or sitting-case car and where necessary the services of attendants are obtained from the Elizabeth Martland Unit.

The transport of patients receiving "day care" to and from their homes is undertaken by the Ambulance Service. Many out-patients receiving E.C.T. treatment are also conveyed to the Psychiatric Out-Patients' Department and returned home usually by sitting-case car.

The transport of children attending the Training Centre and Crèche, to and from home, is also arranged with the Ambulance Service.

Trainees attending the Industrial Centre are encouraged to make their own way by public transport, but where they are unable to do so owing to their disability, they are conveyed to and from their homes by sitting-case car.



## MENTAL DEFICIENCY

### Cases Reported During the Year

There were 20 cases reported during the year.

Of these, 18 were reported under the Education Act, 1944, 9 having been found incapable of receiving education at school, and 9 requiring supervision after leaving school.

There were 2 cases reported under the Mental Deficiency Acts, as follows:—

(a) Detained in the Elizabeth Martland Unit .....	0
(b) In Welfare Services' Accommodation .....	0
(c) At the instance of the parent or guardian .....	2
(2 males aged 2 years and 43 years)	
(d) Found neglected or without visible means of support .....	0
(e) Referred by the Police or by the Courts under Section 8 (1a) or as a result of other action by the Courts .....	0
(f) Cases reported but not regarded as defectives "subject to be dealt with" and receiving adequate care .....	0

Further particulars relating to the cases reported during the year are given in the tables relating to mental deficiency.

### Ascertained Defectives Found to be "Subject to be dealt with"

During the year there were 20 defectives found to be "subject to be dealt with." Of these, 1 (male aged 2 years) died before further action could be taken and 1 (female aged 16 years) removed to another area. The remaining 18 were placed under statutory supervision.

### Statutory Supervision

At the beginning of the year there were 217 cases under statutory supervision.

During the year 18 newly ascertained cases were placed under statutory supervision.

The following details relate to the 18 ascertained cases found to be "subject to be dealt with" and placed under statutory supervision:—

(a) Children of School Age .....	17
(1) Incapable of Receiving Education .....	9
At home—in care of parents .....	0
Admitted to the Training Centre .....	6
Admitted to the Creche .....	3
(2) Requiring Supervision after Leaving School .....	8
There were 8 children who left the Chaucer Special School.	
All but 3 of these children were suitably employed at the end of the year, and 3 males were admitted to the Arthurs Industrial Centre.	
(b) Adults and Juveniles .....	1
Admitted to the Industrial Centre .....	1
(Male aged 43 years).	





The one admission was a male aged 9 years, admitted to Olive Mount Hospital, Liverpool.

### Guardianship

At the beginning of the year there were 5 cases (4 males and 1 female) under guardianship.

- (1) A female aged 25 years, employed in the St. Saviour's Convent, Liverpool, is under the guardianship of the Sister Superior.
- (2) A male aged 30 years, who was placed under the guardianship of an officer of the local health authority in October, 1953.
- (3) A male aged 19 years, who was placed under the guardianship of an officer of the local health authority in December, 1954.
- (4) A male aged 51 years, who was placed under the guardianship of an officer of the local health authority in September, 1956.
- (5) A male aged 46 years, a registered blind person, who was placed under the guardianship of an officer of the local health authority in November, 1956.

During the year the following cases were removed from guardianship:

- (1) The male aged 46 years, a registered blind person, was discharged from his order and was offered voluntary supervision.
- (2) The male aged 30 years, had his guardianship order varied to institutional care and was admitted to Calderstones Hospital.

At the end of the year there were 2 males and 1 female under guardianship.

### Voluntary Supervision

At the beginning of the year there were 57 cases under voluntary supervision.

During the year 1 case was offered voluntary supervision following discharge from his guardianship order and 13 who were removed from statutory supervision.

No cases were removed from voluntary supervision during the year, but 1 female on voluntary supervision died.

At the end of the year there were 70 cases under voluntary supervision.

### Taken to "Place of Safety"

There was no case admitted into a "place of safety" during the year.

### Community Care

The duties of the Mental Health Officers include the community care and supervision of mental defectives under statutory supervision, guardianship and on licence. During the year the following reports and visits were made:—

#### Reports

Case Histories .....	19
Progress Reports .....	8

#### Visits

Statutory Supervision .....	904
Statutory Guardianship .....	62
Ineffective Visits .....	287

Two of the Mental Health Officers and the Psychologist have been appointed Statutory Guardians. The Psychologist, however, relinquished his appointment during the year when the case he was supervising was discharged from his order. The work of Guardianship entails frequent and close contact with the defectives concerned and necessitates strict supervision and management of their affairs.

The one case (male) on licence to relatives during the year who was under supervision by a Mental Health Officer was found to be sufficiently stabilised to be discharged from his order.

### Temporary Accommodation

During the year short-term care was provided for 4 cases as follows:—

	Males	Females
Calderstones Hospital .....	1	1
Brockhall Hospital .....	2	—

The periods of accommodation varied from 2 to 8 weeks.

### Arrangements with Adjacent Local Health Authorities

By arrangement, suitable cases can be admitted from the Saddleworth district into the Training Centres and a charge is made to the West Riding County Council for these cases.

The Lancashire County Council and the West Riding County Council have agreed that suitable adults should attend the Industrial Centres. A charge is made to these authorities.

### Creche Facilities

These facilities are available in a large wooden hut on the Glen Mill Site. They provide for children who are unsuitable for admission to the Occupation Centre, and the number of weekly attendances allowed per child varies according to the special needs of the case. Training of a nursery type is undertaken and the services of the Psychologist are utilised.

In addition to the two attendants, the services of the Mental Health Officers are also utilised.

At the beginning of the year 12 children (6 males, 6 females) were on the register. During the year 5 new children were admitted and none discharged. At the end of the year there were 17 children (10 males, 7 females) on the register.

### Training Centre

The Haven Lane Training Centre is open each week-day except Saturday and is closed during the ordinary school holidays. A mid-day meal is provided through the School Meals Service, a charge being made to the parents; in necessitous cases this charge is reduced or waived. Free milk is also supplied once a day to each child under 16 years of age.

During the year Mr. P. Stephens, Supervisor, resigned from the centre to take up a studentship with the Vineland Institute in America. Mr. P. J. Bird was appointed to replace him. Mrs. F. M. Wilcock also left the centre on taking up her new appointment as Senior Handicraft Instructress at the Alice A. Kenyon Industrial Centre.



During the year there were 7 admissions (4 boys, 3 girls) from the Oldham County Borough, and 1 (girl) from the Saddleworth district of the West Riding. There were 18 senior girls transferred to the Alice A. Kenyon Industrial Centre. Two cases (males) were transferred to the Creche, and 1 case (male) was withdrawn from the centre for medical reasons. On the 31st December there were 28 pupils on the register, 25 from the Oldham County Borough and 3 from the Saddleworth district of the West Riding County Council.

The Ambulance Service transports the children to and from the Training Centre, part-time drivers being engaged for this purpose to relieve the strain on the ambulance personnel.

In July, a trip to the seaside was provided by the Oldham Blind Children and Welfare Organisation, when the children were taken to Fleetwood and St. Annes, and once again we extend our gratitude to the members of this Organisation for their continued generous support.

Two Christmas Parties were arranged for the children, one by the Parents' Association and the other by the Oldham Blind Children and Welfare Organisation. Both were very much appreciated.

All the facilities of the School Health Service, including dental inspection and treatment, have been made available to the children attending the Training Centre and Creche, and they are fully used.

### **Industrial Centre**

The Arthurs Industrial Centre for mentally handicapped adult males was established in November, 1954, in one of the huts on the Glen Mill Site, and was formally opened on the 28th January, 1955, by His Majesty King Peter II of Yugoslavia.

The primary aim of the centre is to train suitable persons for remunerative employment in outside industry so that eventually they become self-supporting units in the community.

At the end of the year a total of 31 adult males were attending the centre—2 were from the Saddleworth area, 3 were from the adjacent Lancashire County districts and 4 were from the Elizabeth Martland Unit, 3 of whom were psychiatric patients.

The centre is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is closed on Saturdays. A mid-day meal is provided through the School Meals Service under the same arrangements as for the Training Centre.

Travelling facilities are provided free, either by the provision of 'bus tokens or by transport through the Ambulance Service.

The work of the centre is varied and includes the usual handicrafts. The production and repair of selected articles of furniture is undertaken, using modern high-speed woodworking machinery. A chain link fencing machine is in production for the manufacture of fencing. The emphasis of training in the latter part of the year has been on out-door work connected with the building and preparation of the Alice A. Kenyon Industrial Centre. Many valuable lessons were learned as a direct result of this training in the technique of work discipline, and 17 trainees were placed in outside remunerative employment.

The Arthurs Industrial Centre has proved of the greatest value both for the training of mentally handicapped persons to undertake remunerative employment and in caring for those who would otherwise have no occupational provision. The success of the centre has accentuated the need for similar provision for females.

Training at the Alice A. Kenyon Industrial Centre commenced in September with the admission of 18 senior girls transferred from the Haven Lane Training Centre. There were also 14 adult females admitted to the centre from the community during the remaining months of the year and at the end of the year there were 32 females on the register undertaking industrial centre training. Although training at the centre commenced in September it was not formally opened until early in the new year.

This centre is of unusual construction as the two main wings are of prefabricated structure, utilising the Tarran Type prefabricated bungalows which were obtained in 1955 from the Ministry of Works. Wherever possible, existing services have been utilised to reduce the cost of the project, and the existing wooden hut has been adapted and renovated to form the dining room of the new centre.

### Home Training

No special arrangements were provided for the home training of mental defectives.

The following are the statistical returns relating to Mental Defectives:—

#### Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913 to 1938

##### I. Particulars of mental defectives as on 1st January, 1958.

	M.	F.	T.
(1) No. of Ascertained Mental Defectives found to be "subject to be dealt with":—			
(a) In Institutions (including cases on licence therefrom)			
Under 16 years of age .....	6	3	9
Aged 16 years and over .....	57	40	97
In Elizabeth Martland Unit, Oldham and District General Hospital (over 16) .....	20	22	42
(b) Under Guardianship (including cases on licence therefrom)			
Under 16 years of age .....	—	—	—
Aged 16 years and over .....	2	1	3
(c) In "places of safety" .....	—	—	—
(d) Under Statutory Supervision (excluding cases on licence)			
Under 16 years of age .....	26	20	46
Aged 16 years and over .....	97	86	183



	M.	F.	T.
(e) Awaiting removal to an Institution (included in (d) above)			
Under 16 years of age .....	3	1	4
Aged 16 years and over .....	2	3	5
<b>TOTAL Ascertained cases found to be "subject to be dealt with" .....</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>380</b>
(2) No. of mental defectives under Voluntary Supervision:—			
Under 16 years of age .....	—	—	—
Aged 16 years and over .....	44	26	70
<b>TOTAL number of mental defectives .....</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>450</b>
(3) No. of Mental Defectives Receiving Training:—			
(a) In Training Centre .....	14	11	25
(b) In Industrial Centres .....	21	27	48
(c) In Creche .....	10	7	17
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>90</b>

## II. Particulars of cases reported during 1957.

(a) Cases at 31st December ascertained to be defectives "subject to be dealt with"			
Action taken on reports by:—			
(i) Local Education Authorities on children			
(1) While at school or liable to attend school .....	5	4	9
(2) On leaving special schools .....	8	1	9
(3) On leaving ordinary schools .....	—	—	—
(ii) Police or by Courts .....	—	—	—
(iii) Other sources .....	2	—	2
(b) Cases reported who were found to be defectives but not regarded as "subject to be dealt with" on any ground .....	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL number of cases reported during the year</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>

## III. No. of Mental Defectives in Institutions, under Community Care, including Voluntary Supervision or in "places of safety" on 1st January, 1957, who have ceased to be under any of these forms of care during 1957.

	M.	F.	T.
(a) Ceased to be under care .....	—	—	—
(b) Died .....	—	1	1
(c) Removed from area .....	—	—	—
(d) Lost sight of .....	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

## SECTION IV

## GENERAL MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES

PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES AND SUPPLEMENTARY  
OPHTHALMIC SERVICES

## Oldham Executive Council

The Oldham Executive Council consists of a Chairman (Mr. A. C. C. Robertson, O.B.E., J.P.) and 24 other members who hold office for a period of three years, 8 being appointed by the Oldham Health Authority. Alderman J. Bradley and Councillor J. H. Broadbent were re-appointed. The following have been appointed as representatives of the Local Health Authority:—

Alderman F. B. Balson  
Councillor W. Wheeler  
Dr. J. T. Chalmers Keddie  
(to retire 31st March, 1958)  
Councillor S. T. Marron, J.P., F.C.C.S.  
Councillor A. Tweedale, J.P.  
Alderman Miss A. A. Kenyon, J.P.  
(to retire 31st March, 1959)  
Alderman J. Bradley  
Councillor J. H. Broadbent  
(to retire 31st March, 1960)

I am indebted to Mr. F. W. Chapple, Clerk of the Council, for the following report:—

## General Medical Services

The number of Oldham patients registered on all doctors' lists was 118,840 at 1st January, and 118,562 at 31st December. These figures compare with the Registrar General's estimated population for mid-June of 118,800. All the doctors practising in the County Borough are in the Scheme and at the end of the year there were 104 on the Council's Medical List, 51 being resident in the borough and 53 in the adjacent districts. In the previous year there were 104 on the Council's Medical List and one assistant, 51 being resident in the borough and 54 in the adjacent districts. The average number of patients on the lists of doctors resident in Oldham was estimated to be 2,704 compared with 2,660 for the previous year.

At the end of the year there were 94 general medical practitioner obstetricians on the Council's Obstetric List, the same number as in the previous year.

## Pharmaceutical Services

All the pharmaceutical firms and suppliers of surgical appliances in the Borough are in the Scheme and at the end of the year there were 57 firms, including 11 surgical appliance suppliers, the same number of firms as in the previous year, providing services as follows:—

Pharmacies in the area .....	46
Drug Stores .....	—
Surgical Appliance Suppliers .....	11



### Dental Services

All the dentists in the area provide dental services under the Scheme. At the end of the year 27 dentists (including one assistant), the same number as in the previous year, were on the dental list, 21 being resident in the Borough, the same number as in the previous year.

### Ophthalmic Services

The Supplementary Ophthalmic Treatment Regulations provide for patients who have obtained the necessary certificate from their medical practitioner to attend either an ophthalmic practitioner or an ophthalmic optician for eye testing and to have the required spectacles dispensed by an ophthalmic optician or a dispensing optician.

At the end of the year 2 ophthalmic medical practitioners, 26 ophthalmic opticians representing 26 shops were providing optical services. There were no dispensing opticians on the list at the end of the year. At the end of the previous year 2 ophthalmic medical practitioners and 25 ophthalmic opticians, representing 22 shops were providing optical services.

### Finance

Under the National Health Service Act, 1951, patients are requested to pay certain charges for the provision of dentures and optical appliances, and under the National Health Service Act, 1952, further charges were imposed for dental treatment and for drugs and appliances supplied to patients. In cases of hardship application can be made to the National Assistance Board for the charge to be refunded. These charges are payable to the dentists, opticians and chemists on application for treatment, supply of glasses, or the making-up of prescriptions.

The financial year of the Executive Council ends on the 31st March, and for the year ended 31st March, 1958, the expenditure totalled £427,554, which compares with £419,565 for the year ended 31st March, 1957.

The following is an abstract of payments made by the Executive Council under the respective heads for the periods stated. They do not include amounts received from the members of the public, which are paid to dentists, opticians and chemists:—

	1957-58	1956-57
	£	£
Doctors:		
(a) General Medical Services .....	149,264	141,248
(b) Maternity Services .....	8,250	6,795
Chemists .....	167,133	171,242
Dentists .....	59,323	57,706
Ophthalmic .....	36,014	35,305
Administration .....	7,570	7,269

The following amounts were received from members of the public (patients) for dental, ophthalmic and pharmaceutical services:—

	1957-58	1956-57
	£	£
General Dental Services .....	18,568	18,174
Supplementary Ophthalmic Services .....	19,464	20,288
Pharmaceutical Services .....	38,956	27,174
	-----	-----
Total .....	£76,988	£65,636
	-----	-----

The payments to doctors only relate to Oldham patients on their lists. In the case of dentists, chemists and opticians, payment is for services rendered at their surgeries or places of business, e.g., an Oldham chemist is paid by the Oldham Executive Council for ALL prescriptions dispensed by him whether they are on Oldham, Lancashire, West Riding, Manchester or any other Executive Council forms. Many patients in the adjacent districts avail themselves of the pharmaceutical and optical facilities which have been developed by a number of progressive Oldham firms and this is reflected in the payments for these services by the Oldham Executive Council.



## SECTION V

## INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

## General

The incidence of scarlet fever was low, only 72 cases being notified and 18 of these being in November. During the first four months of the year measles was rampant and 2,469 cases were notified during this period. This epidemic commenced in December of the previous year. There was a marked increase in the incidence of whooping cough and cases were quite prevalent during the first seven months of the year. Dysentery achieved a low record, only 85 cases being notified. In the late summer and autumn "Asian Flu" swept the country and Oldham did not escape.

The following table shows the attack rates and death rates for certain diseases for the County Borough:—

## Attack Rates and Death Rates per 1,000 of the Population

	Attack Rate	Death Rate
Typhoid Fever .....	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever .....	—	—
Meningococcal Infection .....	0.03	—
Scarlet Fever .....	0.60	—
Whooping Cough .....	1.10	—
Diphtheria .....	—	—
Smallpox .....	—	—
Measles .....	21.97	—
Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal)	0.83	0.09
Acute Poliomyelitis:		
(a) Paralytic .....	0.04	—
(b) Non-Paralytic .....	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	3.55*	—
Food Poisoning .....	0.13	—

\* Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths

## Influenza

An outbreak of the "Asian" type of Influenza A, which affected most of the country in the late summer and autumn of 1957, occurred in Oldham.

On September 2nd a general practitioner reported what appeared to be typical influenza in a family. An Assistant Medical Officer of Health visited to take specimens which were sent to the Public Health Laboratory Service in Manchester for virological examination in accordance with a prior arrangement.

Considerable school absence was first reported on the 12th September, and this increased until 20th September on which date slightly over 50 per cent of the children on school registers were absent. The extent to which industry was affected is difficult to estimate, but the numbers of sickness benefit claims made at the Oldham Office of the Ministry of National Insurance rose steeply from a weekly average of 330 in August, 1957, to 2,924 in the week ending 24th September. The number fell thereafter to a normal seasonal level in the last week in October, and school attendance was back to normal by 11th October. There was no serious breakdown of passenger transport or other public services in the town.

Local hospitals were affected by staff sickness and by the demand for admission of the more severe and complicated cases of influenza. It was necessary in some specialities for the admission of non-urgent cases to be restricted. The majority of the cases of influenza requiring hospital treatment were admitted to Westhulme Hospital for Infectious Diseases. Visiting in hospitals, except of the seriously ill, was suspended.

A vaccine effective against this particular strain of influenza virus was prepared and was issued by the Ministry of Health in small quantities for certain priority groups, i.e., General Practitioners, Hospital Staffs and those members of Local Authority Staffs such as nurses, midwives and ambulance personnel likely to be in contact with patients. It was not possible, however, for the first issue to be made until the first week of October, by which time the local epidemic was waning. A total of 140 individuals in these priority groups were vaccinated.

No deaths from influenza or influenzal pneumonia were registered in the first eight months of 1957. Thereafter 35 deaths were registered from these causes, of which 34 occurred in September and October. With the exception of two young children all the deaths were in adults over 25 years of age. One of the two child deaths was at the end of November—almost two months after the epidemic wave had left the town.

#### **Diphtheria**

No cases were notified and no deaths registered.

#### **Scarlet Fever**

There were 72 cases notified compared with 130 in the previous year. No deaths were registered.

#### **Erysipelas**

There were 8 cases notified compared with 11 in the previous year. Of the 8 cases notified, 7 occurred in persons 45 years of age and over. No deaths were registered.

#### **Enteric Fever**

##### **(a) Typhoid**

No cases were notified and no deaths registered.

##### **(b) Para-typhoid**

No cases were notified and no deaths registered.

#### **Meningococcal Infection**

There were 5 cases of meningococcal meningitis notified and confirmed. The meningococcal organism was isolated in 4 cases. One death was registered, a male child aged 5 months, who died shortly after admission to hospital.

#### **Acute Encephalitis**

One case was notified, a female aged 72 years. She made a complete recovery.

#### **Acute Primary Pneumonia**

There were 49 cases notified and 11 deaths registered. Of the 11 deaths registered 10 were brought to notice on the registrar's returns and the cases were not notified.



### Influenza and Influenzal Pneumonia

There were 48 cases of influenzal pneumonia notified and 23 deaths registered. Of the 23 deaths registered, 16 were brought to notice on the Registrar's returns and the cases were not notified.

There were 12 deaths registered as due to influenza.

### Measles

There were 2,625 cases notified compared with 116 in the previous year. During the first five months of the year the disease assumed epidemic proportions, 2,469 cases being notified during the period. There was one death registered, a male aged 13 months, who died at home.

### Whooping Cough

There were 139 cases notified compared with 43 in the previous year. Of the 139 cases notified 17 had received a full course of whooping cough immunisation and these were classified as follows:—

Severe .....	0
Moderate .....	3
Mild .....	14

One death was registered, a female aged 6 years, who died at home. This child had an attack of whooping cough complicated by pneumonia. She had not been vaccinated against whooping cough. Her condition improved, but she collapsed suddenly and died 6 weeks after the onset of the disease.

### Dysentery

During the year 85 cases were notified (84 Sonn  , 1 no organism isolated), 46 of these cases occurring in December. In May an outbreak involved the Bardsley Infant and Junior Schools and 11 children were ascertained as confirmed cases. Following investigation, 10 cases (8 adults, 1 school child and 1 pre-school child) among home contacts were confirmed. In December an outbreak occurred at St. Peter's Infant School, when 18 children were ascertained as confirmed cases. Following investigation, 7 cases (2 adults, 1 school child and 4 pre-school children) among home contacts were confirmed. In November an outbreak occurred in an industrial day nursery, 6 cases being notified and confirmed. Following investigation, 4 cases (2 adults, 2 pre-school children) were notified as confirmed home contacts.

### Ophthalmia Neonatorum

During the year 5 cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified. These were kept under observation and in no case was vision impaired.

### Pemphigus Neonatorum

In September, a practitioner reported that an infant in Woodfield Maternity Home had developed a skin eruption. This was subsequently diagnosed as a mild form of pemphigus neonatorum and the baby and mother were transferred to Monsall Hospital. Special precautionary measures were enforced and throat and nose swabs were taken from all the staff and from patients. *Staphylococcus Pyogenes* type (55/71) was isolated from skin lesions of the infant and also from mild skin lesions of another infant. No further cases occurred.

### Puerperal Pyrexia

There were 7 cases of puerperal pyrexia notified, as follows:—

Oldham and District General Hospital .....	1
Woodfield Maternity Home .....	1
Domiciliary .....	5

### Smallpox

No cases were notified and no deaths registered.

### Acute Poliomyelitis

There were 5 cases (5 paralytic) notified and confirmed. None of these cases had been vaccinated with poliomyelitis vaccine. No deaths were registered as due to poliomyelitis.

The following details relate to the cases notified:—

#### (a). Paralytic

**Case No. 1 (R.A.M.).** A male aged 2 years was admitted to hospital on the 8th February with weakness of the right leg. On discharge from hospital there was some residual paralysis and he received regular orthopaedic treatment and physiotherapy as an out-patient.

**Case No. 2 (K.J.).** A male aged 2 years was admitted to hospital on the 8th July with weakness of the right leg following a feverish illness. On discharge from hospital he appeared to have made a satisfactory recovery. He was subsequently readmitted to hospital and died in September. Death was due to a malignant cerebral tumour, which was confirmed by a post-mortem examination.

**Case No. 3 (D.S.).** A female aged 3 years was admitted to hospital on the 8th August with left facial paralysis and some weakness of the shoulders and back. On discharge from hospital there was some residual paralysis of the left side of the face, but no other muscular weakness.

**Case No. 4 (D.H.).** A male aged 9 years was admitted to hospital on the 16th December with generalised paralysis. On discharge from hospital there was still weakness of the spinal muscles and the legs which necessitated regular orthopaedic treatment and attendance at the special school for physically handicapped pupils.

**Case No. 5 (S.B.).** A male aged 7 months was admitted to hospital on the 16th December with weakness of the right leg. On discharge there was almost complete recovery.

Fourteen days before the onset of symptoms of poliomyelitis this child had received an injection of penicillin in the right buttock for a severe chest infection.

#### (b) Non-paralytic

No cases were notified or brought to notice.

### Malaria

No cases were brought to notice during the year.



### Glandular Fever

There were 2 cases brought to notice, both males, aged 15 years and 24 years. Both cases were admitted to hospital.

### Other Diseases

No cases of cholera, anthrax, undulant fever or typhus fever were brought to notice.

### FOOD POISONING

In all cases of food poisoning or suspected food poisoning full enquiries are made to ascertain the source of infection. If any suspected food is available, samples are submitted for bacteriological examination. Contamination by rodents is also fully investigated.

During the year 16 cases of food poisoning were formally notified and an additional 10 cases were ascertained following enquiry and investigation. Of these cases 22 were associated with 6 outbreaks and the remaining 4 were individual cases.

In 13 of the notified and ascertained cases organisms were isolated.

<i>Salm. typhi-murium</i> .....	11
<i>Salm. bovis-morbificans</i> .....	2

The salmonella organism was isolated in 3 individual cases and in 3 outbreaks. The following details relate to these outbreaks:—

- (1) A mother and her child were notified as food poisoning. Both developed diarrhoea and the child vomited. *Salm. typhi-murium* were isolated from the fæces of the child but the specimens from the mother were negative. The suspected food stuff was trifle which was consumed outside the Borough and the Medical Officer of Health of the district concerned was notified of the outbreak.
- (2) Cases of food poisoning were notified from two adjacent houses which were used as houses let in lodgings. There were 10 cases in all, 5 children and 5 adults. There were three cases notified and seven ascertained. *Salm. typhi-murium* were isolated from the fæces of 7 of the cases. Full enquiry failed to establish the culpable food stuff and investigations were difficult as a number of the cases had moved to another part of the town.
- (3) Two adults in one household were notified as food poisoning. One complained of shivering, nausea and diarrhoea but the other was symptomless. *Salm. bovis-morbificans* were isolated from the fæces in both cases. The causative food stuff was not identified but it was suspected that under-cooked meat was responsible.

In the following outbreak *Cl. welchii* were isolated:—

An adult was notified as food poisoning with symptoms of backache, abdominal pain, vomiting and nausea and her child also had symptoms of vomiting and was ascertained as a case. Both had consumed a potato pie containing liver and meat. The fæces specimens were negative in both cases but *Cl. welchii* were isolated from the remains of the potato pie.

There were two outbreaks in which no organisms were isolated.

One outbreak involved an adult and two children, the latter two cases being ascertained. The other outbreak included two adults and one child. No particular food stuff could be identified in either outbreak.



TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES OF CERTAIN DISEASES NOTIFIED AND THE DEATHS REGISTERED FROM THESE DISEASES DURING THE SEVERAL MONTHS OF THE YEAR.

Months	Measles		Scarlet Fever		Dysentery		* Food Poisoning		Meningococcal Infections		Acute Poliomyelitis		Whooping Cough		Erysipelas		Acute Primary Pneumonia		Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Paralytic	Non-Paralytic	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Jan.	335	..	8	..	..	..	1(2)	..	..	..	..	..	14	..	1	..	8	2	3	..
Feb.	846	..	6	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35	1	1	..	5	..	..	..
March	815	1	4	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	22	..	..	..	4	..	..	..
April	473	..	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	..	..	..	6	1	..	..
May	99	..	7	..	14	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	15	..	1	..	3	..	..	..
June	20	..	3	..	9	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	11	..	..	..	5	1	..	..
July	15	..	5	..	1	..	2	..	1	..	1	..	19	..	..	..	2	2	..	..
Aug.	19	..	4	..	..	..	8(7)	..	..	..	1	..	4	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
Sept.	1	..	1	..	..	..	1(1)	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	4	..	20	12
Oct.	1	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	5	2	22	10
Nov.	1	..	18	..	11	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	3	..	3	1
Dec.	..	..	6	..	45	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	4	2	..	..
Totals	2625	1	72	..	85	..	16(10)*	..	4	1	5	..	139	1	8	..	49	11	48	23

Smallpox	None	Puerperal Pyrexia	7 cases. No deaths.
Typhoid	None	Epidemic Encephalitis (Encephalitis-Lethargica)	1 case. No deaths.
Para-Typhoid		Diphtheria	None.

\*Food Poisoning—16 cases formally notified, an additional 10 cases were ascertained following enquiry and investigation.

TABLE SHOWING CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED AND DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1957.

Notifiable Disease	Notification in Age Groups								Notifications in the Various Wards of the Borough.													
	Under 1.	1 and under 3.	3 and under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	St. Mary's.	St. Peter's.	Verneth.	Westwood.	St. Paul's.	Coldhurst.	Hartford.	Hollinwood.	Clarksfield.	Mumps.	St. James'.	Waterhead.	Bardsley.
Smallpox	1	6	21	32	10	1	1	...	...	11	6	4	1	6	...	14	9	4	2	4	...	3
Scarlet Fever	17	35	41	43	3	...	...	...	...	5	12	11	18	7	...	4	3	11	13	4	...	19
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	91	752	892	871	14	2	3	...	...	171	293	173	192	137	149	204	213	301	184	156	273	179
Measles	6	2	3	1	1	4	10	15	9	2	5	4	1	2	3	1	1	8	11	...	13	...
Acute Pneumonia—Primary	1	...	5	3	...	7	10	11	11	6	6	2	1	3	5	1	5	6	3	3	4	3
Influenzal	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paralytic	1	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...
Non-Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Encephalitis—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Infective	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Post Infective	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	1	16	15	28	6	4	14	1	...	3	15	1	4	...	1	...	...	5	19	2	10	25
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Para-Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid Fever—Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning	2	2	2	1	...	...	5	3	1	1	2	...	...	3	2	...	1	2	2	...	3	...
Erysipelas	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	1	3	1	...	6	18	16	6	4	6	5	3	2	2	...	6	7	...	4	8	1
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals	127	816	985	984	35	29	64	49	32	205	353	202	222	160	173	228	238	361	235	174	335	235

\* Occurred in hospital.

Ward  
St. James'  
Waterhead  
Bardsley  
83  
+ 15 Afternoon



## TUBERCULOSIS

There was no change in the Tuberculosis Service provided for the Borough. Out-patient diagnosis and preventive work is carried out at the Central Chest Clinic, Oldham and District General Hospital, and in-patient treatment is provided at Strinesdale Sanatorium and other hospitals and sanatoria outside the Borough.

### Deaths

The number of deaths registered 13 (13 pulmonary and 0 non-pulmonary) gives a rate per thousand of the population of 0.11 (0.11 pulmonary and nil non-pulmonary) compared with 19 (15 pulmonary and 4 non-pulmonary) and a rate of 0.16 (0.13 pulmonary and 0.03 non-pulmonary) for the previous year.

### The Tuberculosis Register

The number of accepted cases on the Register at the 31st December was 739.

During the year 88 cases were removed for the following reasons:—

1. Recovered .....	37	or 42.05% of total removals.
2. Removal out .....	22	} or 30.68% of total removals.
3. Not desiring further treatment	—	
4. Lost sight of .....	2	
5. Diagnosis not confirmed .....	3	} or 27.27% of total removals.
6. Died .....	24	

Of the 37 recovered cases, 30 were pulmonary.

Of the 24 cases that died, 13 (11 pulmonary, 2 non-pulmonary) died from causes other than tuberculosis.

## Pulmonary Tuberculosis

### New Cases

There were 67 new cases placed on the Register compared with 98 for the previous year.

R.A.1. (Early cases, sputum negative or absent) .....	27
R.A.2. (Intermediate cases, sputum negative or absent) ...	5
R.A.3. (Advanced cases, sputum negative or absent) .....	2
R.B.1. (Early cases, sputum positive) .....	5
R.B.2. (Intermediate cases, sputum positive) .....	21
R.B.3. (Advanced cases, sputum positive) .....	7

### Deaths

During the year 13 persons died from pulmonary tuberculosis compared with 15 in the previous year. This represents a death rate of 0.11 per thousand of the population and compares with 0.15 for the previous year.

In addition 12 pulmonary cases died from causes other than tuberculosis,

Of these 13 deaths, 6 or 46.15 per cent had been notified more than five years; one or 7.70 per cent had been notified three to five years; and none died within one to three years after notification. The remaining 6 or 46.15 per cent occurred within one year of coming to notice. The following table shows the length of time between notification and death of the remaining 6 cases:—

Under 1 week .....	1
1 to 4 weeks .....	1
1 to 2 months .....	3
2 to 3 months .....	—
3 to 6 months .....	—
6 to 9 months .....	—
9 to 12 months .....	1

Thus of the 13 patients dying during the year, 7 or 53.85 per cent died within 5 years of coming to notice.

### Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis

#### New Cases

The number of new cases placed on the Register during the year was 6. This compares with 15 for the previous year.

The following table shows the localisation of the disease in these cases:—

Bones and Joints .....	—
Abdomen .....	1
Meninges .....	1
Peripheral Glands .....	—
Other Organs .....	3
Generalised .....	—
Skin .....	1
	—
	6
	—

#### Deaths

No deaths due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis were registered during the year. This is the first year that a nil return has been recorded in the Borough for non-pulmonary tuberculosis.



## Summary of New Cases and Deaths During the Year

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.
0 to 1 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 to 5 ... ..	1	3	1	...	...	...	...	...
5 to 10 ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 to 15 ... ..	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
15 to 20 ... ..	1	2	1	1	...	...	...	...
20 to 25 ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
25 to 35 ... ..	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 to 45 ... ..	7	4	1	1	1	2	...	...
45 to 55 ... ..	12	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
55 to 65 ... ..	7	1	...	...	2	1	...	...
65 plus ... ..	6	5	...	...	3	2	...	...
Totals ... ..	44	23	3	3	7	6	...	...

1957 .....	67	.....	6	.....	13	.....	—
1956 .....	98	.....	11	.....	15	.....	4
1955 .....	59	.....	20	.....	16	.....	2
1954 .....	70	.....	23	.....	24	.....	2

The following is a summary of the occupations of the new cases:—

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Baker .....	1	—
Builder's Ganger .....	1	—
Bricklayer Foreman .....	1	—
Bus Conductor .....	—	1
Bus Drivers .....	2	—
Cotton Operatives .....	11	—
Clerks .....	3	—
Dismantler .....	1	—
Electrician .....	1	—
Electrical Engineer .....	1	—
Engineers .....	2	—
Foundry Worker .....	1	—
Hairdresser .....	1	—
Housewives .....	11	1
Labourers .....	5	1
Lamplighter .....	1	—
Licensed Victualler .....	1	—
Lorry Drivers .....	2	—
No Occupation .....	5	1
Press Operator .....	1	—
Pre-School Children .....	2	1
Retired .....	4	—
Salesmen .....	3	—
Shop Assistant .....	1	—
School Children .....	3	1
Tool Makers .....	2	—
	—	—
	67	6
	—	—

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1952.  
Part I.—Summary of Notifications, during the year.

Formal Notifications.															
Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of Tuberculosis.															
Age Periods	0 to 1	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 to 75	75 & upwards	Total (all ages)	
Pulmonary Males ...	...	...	1	1	...	3	...	3	6	12	2	2	...	30	
Females ...	...	1	2	...	...	2	1	5	4	2	...	3	1	21	
Non-Pulmonary Males ...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Females ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
TOTALS ...	...	1	4	2	...	7	1	8	10	14	2	5	1	55	

Part II—New Cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the above-mentioned period, otherwise than by formal notification.  
Supplemental Return.

Age Periods	0—1	1—2	2—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25—35	35—45	45—55	55—65	65—75	75 and up.	Total (all ages)
Pulmonary Males ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Females ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-Pulmonary Males...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Females ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source of Information	No. of Cases	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Death Returns from Local Registrars ...	...	...
Transferable Deaths from Registrar General ...	...	...
Posthumous Notifications ...	...	...
TOTALS...	...	...



SANATORIUM AND HOSPITAL TREATMENT.

The following table gives details of notifications received on Forms I and II of admissions to, and discharges from, hospitals and sanatoria, of persons suffering from tuberculosis and the deaths occurring therein.

TABLE I. PULMONARY CASES.

	Admissions			Discharges			Deaths		
	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.
Strinesdale Sanatorium	25	19	...	35	22	...	2	2	...
Abergele Chest Hospital	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Baguley Hospital	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Chadderton Pulmonary Hospital	...	8	...	...	10	...	...	3	...
Hyde Hospital	7	...	...	4	...	...	2	...	...
High Carley Hospital, Ulverston	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ladywell Hospital, Salford	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Westmorland Sanatorium,									
Grange-over-Sands	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wolstenholme Hospital, Rochdale	1	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...
Wrightington Hospital...	...	1	...	2	3	...	...	...	...
Oldham & District General Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...

TABLE II. NON-PULMONARY CASES.

Wrightington Hospital...	...	1	1	1	1	3	...	...
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### CANCER

The number of deaths attributed to cancer shows an increase of 21 compared with 1956.

The figures for the last six years are as follows:—

1952 .....	234
1953 .....	296
1954 .....	285
1955 .....	290
1956 .....	277
1957 .....	298

The following is an analysis of the age and sex distribution of all persons who were certified as dying from cancer during the year:—

Ages	Males	Females	Total
0-15 .....	1	—	1
15-25 .....	1	—	1
25-35 .....	2	—	2
35-45 .....	2	9	11
45-55 .....	16	23	39
55-65 .....	49	36	85
65-75 .....	45	48	93
75+ .....	34	32	66
Totals ...	150	148	298

### Localisation of the Disease

(Classified in accordance with the Manual of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death).

#### Malignant Neoplasm of Buccal Cavity and Pharynx (140-148)

(140) Lip .....	—
(141) Tongue .....	1
(142) Salivary Gland .....	—
(143) Floor of Mouth .....	—
(144) Other parts of mouth and mouth unspecified .....	1
(145) Oral mesopharynx .....	1
(146) Nasopharynx .....	—
(147) Hypopharynx .....	1
(148) Pharynx unspecified .....	2

#### Malignant Neoplasm of Digestive Organs and Peritoneum (150-159)

(150) Oesophagus .....	8
(151) Stomach .....	59
(152) Small intestine, including duodenum .....	2
(153) Large intestine, except rectum .....	33
(154) Rectum .....	21
(155) Biliary passages and of liver (stated to be primary site) .....	2
(156) Liver (secondary and unspecified) .....	1
(157) Pancreas .....	6
(158) Peritoneum .....	2
(159) Unspecified digestive organs .....	—



**Malignant Neoplasm of Respiratory System (160-165)**

(160)	Nose, nasal cavities, middle ear and accessory sinuses .....	—
(161)	Larynx .....	4
(162)	Trachea, and of bronchus and lung specified as primary .....	2
(163)	Lung and bronchus, unspecified as to whether primary or secondary .....	54
(164)	Mediastinum .....	1
(165)	Thoracic organs (secondary) .....	—

**Malignant Neoplasm of Breast and Genito-Urinary Organs (170-181)**

(170)	Breast .....	33
(171)	Cervi uteri .....	7
(172)	Corpus uteri .....	2
(173)	Other parts of uterus, including chorionepithelioma .....	—
(174)	Uterus, unspecified .....	4
(175)	Ovary, fallopian tube and broad ligament .....	8
(176)	Other and unspecified female genital organs .....	—
(177)	Prostate .....	10
(178)	Testis .....	—
(179)	Other and unspecified male genital organs .....	—
(180)	Kidney .....	2
(181)	Bladder and other urinary organs .....	7

**Malignant Neoplasm of other and Unspecified Sites (190-199)**

(190)	Skin (melanoma) .....	—
(191)	Skin .....	2
(192)	Eye .....	1
(193)	Brain and other parts of nervous system .....	2
(194)	Thyroid gland .....	2
(195)	Other endocrine glands .....	1
(196)	Bone (including jaw bone) .....	1
(197)	Connective tissue .....	—
(198)	Lymph nodes (secondary and unspecified) .....	—
(199)	Other and unspecified sites .....	8

**Neoplasms of Lymphatic and Hæmatopoietic Tissues (200-205)**

(200)	Lymphosarcoma and Reticulosarcoma .....	1
(201)	Hodgkin's disease .....	2
(202)	Other forms of lymphoma (reticulosis) .....	—
(203)	Multiple myeloma (plasmocytoma) .....	2
(204)	Leukæmia and aleukæmia .....	2
(205)	Mycosis fungoides .....	—

The following two tables which give the age and sex distribution of deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus for the years 1951 to 1957, inclusive, are of interest:—

Year 1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Males ..... 21	30	38	45	42	46	45
Females ..... 5	2	11	5	6	11	11

Year	Sex	Age Groups						Totals	
		15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75		75+
1951	Males ...	-	-	1	5	11	4	-	21
	Females	1	-	-	2	1	1	-	5
1952	Males ...	-	-	2	3	12	11	2	30
	Females	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
1953	Males ...	-	-	1	6	9	15	7	38
	Females	-	-	-	1	3	6	1	11
1954	Males ...	-	1	3	8	17	14	2	45
	Females	-	1	1	-	3	-	-	5
1955	Males ...	-	-	-	7	18	13	4	42
	Females	-	-	-	1	3	2	-	6
1956	Males ...	-	1	1	7	18	17	2	46
	Females	-	-	-	-	5	4	2	11
1957	Males ...	-	1	-	7	19	13	5	45
	Females	-	-	-	1	5	3	2	11
Total	Males ...	-	3	8	43	104	87	20	267
	Females	1	1	1	7	20	16	5	51
Grand Total ...		1	4	9	50	124	103	25	318

### VENEREAL DISEASES

The following figures relate to Oldham patients attending for the first time at a treatment centre, and are extracted from records received from the Consultant Venerologist in charge of the Centre:—

	Oldham	Rochdale	Ashton
Syphilis .....	28	—	—
Gonorrhœa .....	34	3	1
Non-Venereal and Undiagnosed Conditions	101	2	3
Total .....	163	5	4



## SECTION VI

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

## WATER SUPPLY

The Waterworks Engineer and General Manager (Mr. C. Busfield) has kindly supplied the following particulars:—

“ During the year 1957 a constant supply of potable water, generally of a high standard of purity, was maintained to all premises within the Department's area of supply, which are supplied through the Department's distribution system.

About 72,100 dwelling-houses are connected directly to this Department's mains within the Department's area of supply, and so far as can be ascertained, no houses are now supplied from this Department's mains by means of common stand pipes. The estimated population within the Department's area of supply is 205,000.

The pH value of the water supplied from the Piethorne and Hanging Lees sources, which is unfiltered, varied between 6.0 and 7.6. The pH value of the water supplied from the Castleshaw source, which is filtered, ranged between 7.0 and 8.0, and the pH value of the water supplied from the Readycon Dean source, which is also filtered, varied between 7.3 and 8.0. Measures were taken as required to counteract occasional increases in the acidity of the water and no cases of contamination by lead were noted.

The potable water from all sources is continuously sterilised by the addition of chlorine and ammonia before passing into the distribution system, and water supplied for trade purposes from the Department's two reservoirs at Strinesdale is sterilised by the addition of chlorine.

Sources of Supply	Chemical Bacteriological			Remarks
<b>Piethorne</b>				
Raw Water .....	0	2	0	B. Coli per 100 ml.
		1	1-10	" " "
		2	11-50	" " "
After Sterilisation .....	4	9	0	" " "
		1	1-10	" " "
<b>Hanging Lees</b>				
Raw Water .....	0	2	0	" " "
		1	1-10	" " "
After Sterilisation .....	4	10	0	" " "
<b>Castleshaw</b>				
Raw Water .....	0	2	0	" " "
		1	11-50	" " "
After Sterilisation .....	4	10	0	" " "
<b>Readycon Dean</b>				
Raw Water .....	0	3	0	" " "
After Sterilisation .....	4	10	0	" " " "

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

I am indebted to Mr. J. Taylor, the Sewage Works Manager, for the following report:—

“The main works are situated at Foxdenton, Chadderton, and consist of the following method of treatment:—

- (1) Detritus or Grit Tanks including screening.
- (2) Sedimentation Tanks.
- (3) Activated Sludge (air-blowing).
- (4) Percolating Filters and Humus Tanks.
- (5) Storm Water Tanks.
- (6) Heated Sludge Digestion Tanks followed by Drying Beds.

The Bardsley Works treats sewage from a small area of the Borough and the treatment is done by Settling Tanks and Filters, the resulting effluents are discharged into the River Medlock.

The main works treat the sewage and trades wastes from the whole of the Borough with the exception of the Bardsley area, together with the whole of the sewage produced in the adjoining districts of Lees and Springhead.

Each of the two detritus tanks is provided with endless chain scrapers and coarse screens. The grit was removed from the chambers after any large amount of rain and approximately every three weeks during periods of dry weather. Screenings from these tanks were again disposed of by burial and the disposal area afterwards treated with bleaching powder. The sand and grit removed from the tanks was used, after weathering very successfully as a top layer for the sludge drying beds.

During the year the Activated Sludge Plant was dismantled of its flat porous air-tiles and the more advanced and up-to-date air-domes installed for the distribution of air to the incoming sewage. Over 2,000 feet of air-supply pipe and nearly 5,000 air-dome diffusers were fitted into the aeration tanks.

Since the re-starting of the system good purification has consistently been obtained; the activated sludge has been of good quality and quite flocculent. The percentage of activated sludge carried in the system was higher than the average amount, usually about six per cent, even in hot weather no difficulty was experienced in maintaining a good sludge and in obtaining a clarified effluent.

The final effluents leaving the percolating filters were on the average satisfactory throughout the year; as in former years the capacity of the humus tanks used for removing the solids from the final effluents was inadequate and excess suspended solids on occasions spoiled an otherwise satisfactory effluent.

Five percolating filters were fitted with new sewage distribution arms and two completely new distributors erected, this finishes the programme of repairs and renewals to the high level block of filters.

Insecticides and chlorination were again used throughout the summer months for the control of filter flies and odours with a good degree of success.



Throughout the year, especially on the Activated Sludge Plant we were troubled somewhat by foaming, fortunately the trouble was of such a nature as to be entirely confined to the Sewage Works site; the dispersal of the foam leaves a slimy deposit around the treatment plant. Several observations were made on windy days to see whether the foam reached nearby property, fortunately no foam ever got in the vicinity.

Samples of final effluents entering the watercourse were taken periodically by the Inspectors of the Mersey River Board, all were classed as satisfactory. In August the Members and Officials of the River Board made a tour of inspection of the Sewage Works.

Sludge from the whole of the purification plant was treated in the heated Sludge Digestion Plant; this plant has a total capacity of 250,000 cubic feet, the total capacity was used throughout the year and a good digested sludge was obtained. The temperature of the sludge in the tanks averaged 80°F and the sludge-gas production remained steady; the whole volume of gas was used on the works for heating purposes.

Digested sludge containing approximately 96 per cent of water was either removed to the sludge drying-bed area or pumped into storage lagoons. Wet weather made the dewatering and drying of the sludge extremely difficult and although a new sludge storage lagoon was constructed it cannot be long before an extended area of drying beds will have to be considered.

36,000 tons of raw sludge equal to 12.71 tons per million gallons of sewage flow were removed from the sedimentation tanks.

The total amount of sewage received for treatment during the year was 2,833,000,000 gallons which is equal to an average daily flow of 7,762,000 gallons."

### **PUBLIC CLEANSING**

The Director of Public Cleansing (Mr. E. A. Mossey) has kindly supplied the following particulars:—

"No ashpits remain in the Borough and all house refuse is temporarily stored in B.S.S. dustbins prior to collection by motor vehicles. Of the refuse collection, 80.98% is disposed of by controlled tipping whilst the remainder is dealt with at the one remaining refuse disposal works at Rhodes Bank.

A dustbin supply scheme, chargeable to the rates, was adopted by the Corporation in June, 1950, and from that date until 31st December, 1957, 32,643 B.S.S. dustbins have been supplied.

The Cleansing and Transport Committee intend to erect a modern refuse disposal plant at Glodwick Road Depot, to deal with all the town's refuse.

There still remain in the Borough 193 sanitary pail closets, and their conversion to the fresh water system by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor has been deferred until certain civil engineering difficulties have been overcome.

A scheme for an allowance to be granted to owners of houses of 50% of the approved estimate of the cost for the conversion of a waste water closet was adopted by the Corporation on the 10th December, 1951. The number of waste water closets converted under this scheme to the 31st December, 1957, was 3,900, and of these 1,032 were converted during the year.

There are 222 miles of streets and passages in the Borough, cleansed as follows:—

Daily .....	27 miles
Twice weekly .....	140 miles
Less than once weekly .....	55 miles
Miles of streets cleansed (exclusive of footpaths)	25.077

### Gully Cleansing

Number of gullies .....	19,951
Number of cleansings during the year .....	99,740

The following figures indicate the amount of work done during the year:—

### House and Trade Refuse Collection

Number of dustbins emptied .....	2,320,263
Number of dustbins supplied under free dustbin scheme .....	4,387
Number of dustbins from which domestic refuse is collected each week .....	43,900
Number of sanitary pails emptied .....	10,330
Number of collections of garbage .....	23,900
Number of loads of garbage collected .....	870
Number of loads of excreta collected .....	104
Number of tons of ashes taken to refuse disposal works .....	6,022
Number of tons of ashes taken to Corporation tips .....	31,431
Number of tons of clinker, etc., removed from refuse disposal works .....	3,271
Number of tons of baled tins sold .....	490
Number of tons of mortar sold .....	165

### Waste Water Closets and Latrines

Blockages cleared (W.W.C.'s) .....	3,740
Blockages cleared (Latrines) .....	—
Drains cleared .....	65
Drains found blocked, requiring excavating .....	534
Tippers found not working and re-adjusted .....	87
Tippers, fittings, etc, found broken .....	1,122
New tippers, fittings, etc., fixed .....	723
Visits paid flushing latrines, etc. ....	6,240



### Closet Accommodation

The total number and type of closets in the Borough at the end of the year were as follows:—

Fresh Water Closets .....	25,930
Waste Water Closets .....	20,051
Latrines (Houses) .....	174
(Mills) .....	133
Pail Closets .....	192."

### SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

The General Superintendent of Baths (Mr. C. Murray) has kindly supplied the following particulars:—

"During the year ending 31st December, 1957, the water in the whole of the Corporation Swimming Baths has been maintained in accordance with the Ministry of Health maximum requirement with regard to marginal chlorination and maintenance of the correct pH. values.

At the Central, Robin Hill, Waterhead and Lowermoor Establishments, where the chlorinating apparatus is capable of dealing with the increased amount of chlorine necessary for the operation of the Breakpoint Chlorination technique, this method of sterilisation is used as an additional safeguard at peak periods.

At the Glodwick, Hathershaw and Hollinwood Baths where marginal chlorination only is operated, it is possible to carry a concentration of up to 1.0 p.p.m. of free chlorine without discomfort to bathers, providing the pH. values are maintained in the region of 7.2 to 7.4 and these conditions are in operation particularly during the summer months as an additional safeguard.

During the year, the whole of the Baths and Wash-house premises and appurtenances have been maintained in a satisfactory hygienic condition. The swimming pool surrounds and all floors used by bathers are regularly cleaned with a solution of sodium hypo-chlorite, an effective sterilising agent, and a safeguard against infection."

### GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1957.

During the year, staff changes occurred through the retirement of Inspector J. Crosdale, the appointment of Inspectors H. Mousdell, N. Lees, J. M. Mellor and D. Hamer and the resignation of Inspector J. M. Mellor.

In July, the establishment of the Public Health Inspectors Department, was altered to include Specialist Smoke and Housing Inspectors. Mr. D. Eckersley was subsequently appointed to the position of Housing Inspector and there is still a vacancy for a Smoke Inspector.

During the year, 132 houses in five clearance areas and 182 individual houses were represented. The Littlemoor Compulsory Purchase Orders were also confirmed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Further attention was given to the administration of the Food Hygiene Regulations and it was noted that considerable improvements had been effected to premises and food traders' methods to comply with the regulations.

Further comments under the various headings have been made in the report.

In conclusion, I am indebted to yourself for the willing help and co-operation I have received during the year and I must pay tribute to the whole of the staff for their efforts.

Yours faithfully,

HAROLD V. CASS,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

#### Summary of Work Carried Out by Public Health Inspectors

During the year 7,845 visits and 832 re-visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors in connection with inspections under the various Acts:—

Inspections	Visits	Re-Visits	Total
Accumulations .....	44	2	46
Closets—Water .....	21	20	41
Waste Water .....	304	158	462
Pail .....	4	10	14
Drainage .....	379	250	629
Drain Tests .....	439	43	482
Public Sewers .....	157	2	159
Factories—Mechanical .....	56	—	56
Interviews .....	505	—	505
Keeping of Animals and Birds .....	5	—	5
Marine Stores .....	7	—	7
No Access .....	1302	111	1413
Offensive Trades .....	65	3	68
Rag Gatherers .....	5	1	6
Rats and Mice .....	535	118	653
Schools .....	1	—	1
Shops Acts .....	5	—	5
Contagious Diseases of Animals Act .....	60	—	60
Water Supply .....	31	7	38
Houses Let in Lodgings .....	27	2	29
Air Raid Shelters .....	76	—	76
Pet Shops .....	17	—	17
Common Lodging Houses .....	24	—	24
Offices and Workplaces .....	1	—	1
Outworkers .....	8	—	8
Yards and Courts .....	12	—	12
Rent Act—Certificates of Disrepair .....	219	15	234
Tents, Vans and Sheds .....	34	30	64
Clean Air Act Survey—Interviews .....	413	—	413
Overcrowding .....	19	2	21
Rag Flock Act .....	22	—	22
Miscellaneous .....	521	2	523



Inspections	Visits	Re-Visits	Total
<b>Food Premises</b>			
Slaughterhouses .....	1234	—	1234
Meat Shops .....	240	—	240
Markets .....	56	—	56
Food Preparation Premises .....	24	—	24
Ice Cream Premises .....	27	—	27
Restaurants and Cafes .....	17	—	17
Fish Fryers .....	4	—	4
Fishmongers and Poulterers .....	22	1	23
Grocers .....	158	—	158
Greengrocers .....	4	1	5
Cold Stores .....	23	—	23
Milk and Dairies Regulations .....	12	—	12
Dairies .....	28	—	28
Milkshops .....	2	—	2
Food and Drugs .....	411	—	411
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs .....	13	—	13
Bakehouses—Mechanical .....	100	—	100
Non-Mechanical .....	1	—	1
<b>Infectious Diseases</b>			
Inquiries—Infectious Diseases .....	90	11	101
Food Poisoning .....	51	43	94
Disinfection .....	10	—	10
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>7845</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>8677</b>

#### Summary of Action Taken and Work Done

Number of cases reported to Committee .....	1445
Number of complaints received .....	2072
Matters referred to other departments .....	679
Number of letters to owners, etc. ....	1349
<b>Disrepair</b>	
Roofs repaired or renewed .....	227
Walls and chimneys repaired or rebuilt .....	184
Wall plaster repaired or renewed .....	110
Ceiling .....	87
Floors repaired or relaid .....	46
Windows repaired .....	77
Extra lighting provided .....	13
Ventilation provided or improved .....	11
Ranges or fireplaces repaired, re-set or renewed .....	9
Staircases repaired or renewed .....	7
Handrails provided or repaired .....	7
Doors repaired .....	36
Rooms cleansed or redecorated .....	2
Washing accommodation provided or repaired .....	2
Dampness Remedied—Rising .....	65
Penetrating .....	5
Outbuildings repaired .....	10
Courts, yards and passages—paved or repaved .....	1
cleansed .....	1

**Sanitary Defects**

Drainage—Cleansed .....	228
Repaired or altered .....	217
Reconstructed .....	9
Public Sewers—Cleansed .....	24
Repaired or altered .....	5
Reconstructed .....	3
Eavesgutters repaired, renewed or cleansed .....	137
Rainwater pipes—Repaired or renewed .....	99
Disconnected .....	2
Sinks renewed or provided .....	5
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed .....	16
Water Closets—Provided .....	10
Repaired .....	27
Cleansed .....	12
Waste Water Closets—Repaired .....	66
Cleansed .....	116
Closets converted to water closets—Latrine .....	9
Waste Water Closet .....	20
Other Closets—Repaired .....	2
Cleansed .....	3
Soil Pipes repaired or renewed .....	1
Water supply provided or improved .....	11

**Miscellaneous**

Nuisances abated—Animals and Birds .....	1
Accumulations .....	8
Other Conditions .....	4
Caravans .....	28

**Offensive Trades**

At the beginning of the year there were 15 offensive trades carried on in the Borough. None was commenced, but 6 were discontinued.

At the end of the year the following 9 offensive trades were being carried on in the Borough:—

Tripe Boilers .....	1
Marine Stores .....	5
Gut Scrapers .....	2
Hide and Skin Depot .....	1

There were 65 visits made to these premises during the year. No notices were served in respect of defects.

**Common Lodging Houses**

No new premises were registered during the year, but the licence for one of the premises, which accommodated 21 men, was not renewed by the Health Committee. The keeper appealed to the Magistrates against this refusal to renew his licence. The appeal was dismissed and the Corporation was awarded 4 guineas costs.

There are three premises registered with accommodation for 47 men. No premises are registered for the accommodation of women.



### Bakehouses

There were 296 bakehouses on the register at the beginning of the year. No premises were registered, but one was discontinued, leaving 295 bakehouses on the register at the end of the year.

One basement bakehouse remains in use, the Council have renewed the certificate permitting its use for a further period of five years from the 1st of October, 1954.

During the year 101 visits were paid to bakehouses. The majority of the premises are maintained in a reasonably satisfactory condition.

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

#### Smoke Control from Industrial Plants

During the year, 58 smoke observations of thirty minutes' duration were taken. The extent of the emission of black smoke was as follows:—

No black smoke .....	52
Under one minute .....	0
1-2 minutes .....	4
2-3 minutes .....	0
3-4 minutes .....	1
Over 4 minutes .....	1

Notices under Section 102 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were served on the two firms where black smoke of more than two minutes duration was being emitted.

The undermentioned improvements were effected at industrial and other premises during the year:—

- (1) Repairs to the underfeed stoker and provision of auxillary gas fired boiler at a factory.
- (2) The displacement of steam heating by vertical boiler and the installation of a new heating system by an oil fired boiler at a school.
- (3) The installation of equipment for the provision of secondary air at a cotton mill.
- (4) Further progress for the electrification of a cotton mill.
- (5) At one group of mills a scheme was evolved for the dispensation of one boiler house and its prime mover and re-equipping the mill with electrically driven machinery. The provision of a mechanical stoker to the second boiler house which will provide motive power and heating to the whole group of mills.

### Clean Air Act, 1956

This Act received Royal Assent in July, 1956. The Act with its comprehensive proposals gives local authorities new powers and duties for the prevention of air pollution and the 31st December, 1956, was made the appointed day for bringing into operation those sections of the Act which deal with the following items:—

- Installation of new furnaces
- Height of chimneys
- Smoke Control Areas
- Pollution from Colliery Spoilbanks
- The Making of Building Bye-laws

The Minister of Housing and Local Government issued the Smoke Control Areas (Authorised Fuels) Regulations which also came into operation on the 31st December, 1956.

The Council delegated the powers and duties under Sections 1, 3, 4, 11, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 25 and 30 to the Health Committee and those under Section 10 to the Plans Sub-Committee of the Surveyors and Buildings Committee.

### **Prior Approval Panel**

In July, the Council resolved that a Prior Approval Panel be formed as recommended in the Ministry of Housing and Local Government's Memorandum on Miscellaneous Provisions. The following persons were appointed, Mr. S. N. Duguid, Consulting Engineer; Mr. T. Holmes, Superintendent Engineer, Oldham and District Hospital Group, and the Area Engineer of the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service. Consideration was given to plans submitted by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board for the installation of a new boiler plant at the Oldham and District General Hospital.

### **Bye-Laws**

In December the Council adopted the Model Building Bye-Law under Section 24 of the Act. This Bye-Law requires the provision in new buildings of such arrangements for heating or cooking as are calculated to prevent, so far as practicable, the emission of smoke.

### **Survey of Industrial Plants**

In anticipation of the appointed day under the Clean Air Act, 1956, a survey of all the industrial plants was continued during the year, and the details are shown in the summarised table. The compilation of this report necessitated 348 initial visits and 259 actual detailed surveys to be made.

This survey also provided an opportunity for discussion between the managements and engineers of the various industries in the Borough.

A smokescope was purchased by the Department in January and this has been very useful in demonstrating to industrialists and engineers the stringent requirements of the new Clean Air Act. The smokescope indicates fairly simply what dark smoke is in terms of the Ringlemann Charts which have been made a statutory standard by the Act.

The survey revealed that very few plants were provided with any scientific instruments to assist in their efficient working. In fact, there were only 25 plants provided with draught gauges, 10 plants with CO<sub>2</sub> recorders and 1 flue gas recorder and three steam output recorders. The weekly consumption of the fuel was approximately 2,123 tons of coal, 229 tons of coke, 64,860 gallons of oil, 7 cwts. of anthracite, and some variable quantities of wood waste at joiners' factories.



# SUMMARY OF SURVEY CARRIED OUT IN 1957 OF STEAM RAISING PLANT AND OTHER FURNACES USED IN INDUSTRY — (Excluding Electricity and Gas Undertakings)

Type of Boiler, Kiln or Furnace	No.	MEANS OF STOKING					FUEL IN USE					APPROX. WEEKLY FUEL CONSUMPTION								
		M'ch 'neal	Hand fir'd	Not in rg. use	Oil fir'd	Gas fir'd	Elec- te'ty	Coal	Coke	Oil	Wood	Gas	Elec- te'ty	Coal Tons	Coke Tons	Oil Galls	Gas	Ant' cite cwt.	Wood	Elec- te'ty
Lancashire	172	16	104	43	9			117	2	9	1			1884	11	40000				
Cornish	11		9	2				7	2					24½	8					
9 Economic 4 Water Tube	13	6	4	1	2			8	2	2				52	5	15000				
Vertical	33	4	19	2	5	3		10	12	5	1	3		45½	22½	5300		7		
Small Paxman	1		1					1						5						
Halifax Boilers	3	3						3						18						
Cylindrical Dish End	1		1					1						3						
Horizontal—Specially Designed Oil Boilers	2				2					2						200				
Hot Air Apparatus	1		1					1												
Loco Type Boilers	2		2						2			7			10½					
Gas Boilers	7					7														
86 Sectional																				
17 Conical	109	8	93		7	1		8	93	7		1		24	94	1165				
1 McLeod																				
5 Small Heating																				
Closed Stoves	40		40						40						73					
Convactor Heaters	5		5						5						4					
Super Heater	1				1					1										
Heating Water Coils	1	1						1												
Cupola	16		14	2					14						61					
Crucible Furnaces	8		6		2				6	2					3	125				
Incinerators	7		7																	
Hoffman Brick Kiln	1		1					1						22						
Miscellaneous Furnaces	58	2	22		10	23	1	9	14	10	1	23	1	17	2½	70				
TOTALS ...	492	40	329	50	38	34	1	167	192	38	3	34	1	21222½	229	64860		7		

\* 1 Combined with Coal.

## CLEAN AIR CAMPAIGN

This Authority was one of the 39 Authorities that participated in the North Western Clean Air Campaign which was launched in September. Mr. H. V. Cass, the Chief Public Health Inspector, had the honour to be appointed Chairman of the Organising Committee.

Oldham Clean Air Week was from the 7th to the 12th October, and was formally opened by the Mayor, Councillor A. Tweedale, J.P., at a public meeting in the Town Hall. Dr. Norman MacDonald, F.R.C.P., an eminent Chest Physician, gave an address on Atmospheric Pollution and Health, and a discussion followed.

The Women's Advisory Council for Solid Fuel organised lectures and film shows to demonstrate "Clean Air and the Housewife."

There was not an available hall large enough to hold a static exhibition so a mobile exhibition was staged on The Green. The Solid Smokeless Fuels Federation, the North Western Electricity Board, the North Western Gas Board, and a local firm dealing in oil burning appliances provided mobile exhibition vans. The members of the Coal Utilisation Joint Council co-operated by staging exhibitions on their own premises. The exhibitions were well attended and were felt to be very successful.

## INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The scheme for the investigation of atmospheric pollution as described in the report for 1950 was continued. The Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee act as agent for the participating local authorities and recharge the cost of the scheme on the basis of rateable value.

The analyses obtained are published in the Atmospheric Pollution Bulletin of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, and the accompanying table shows the results obtained in Oldham and the neighbouring towns.



# INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION—

## SULPHUR POLLUTION—LEAD PEROXIDE METHOD

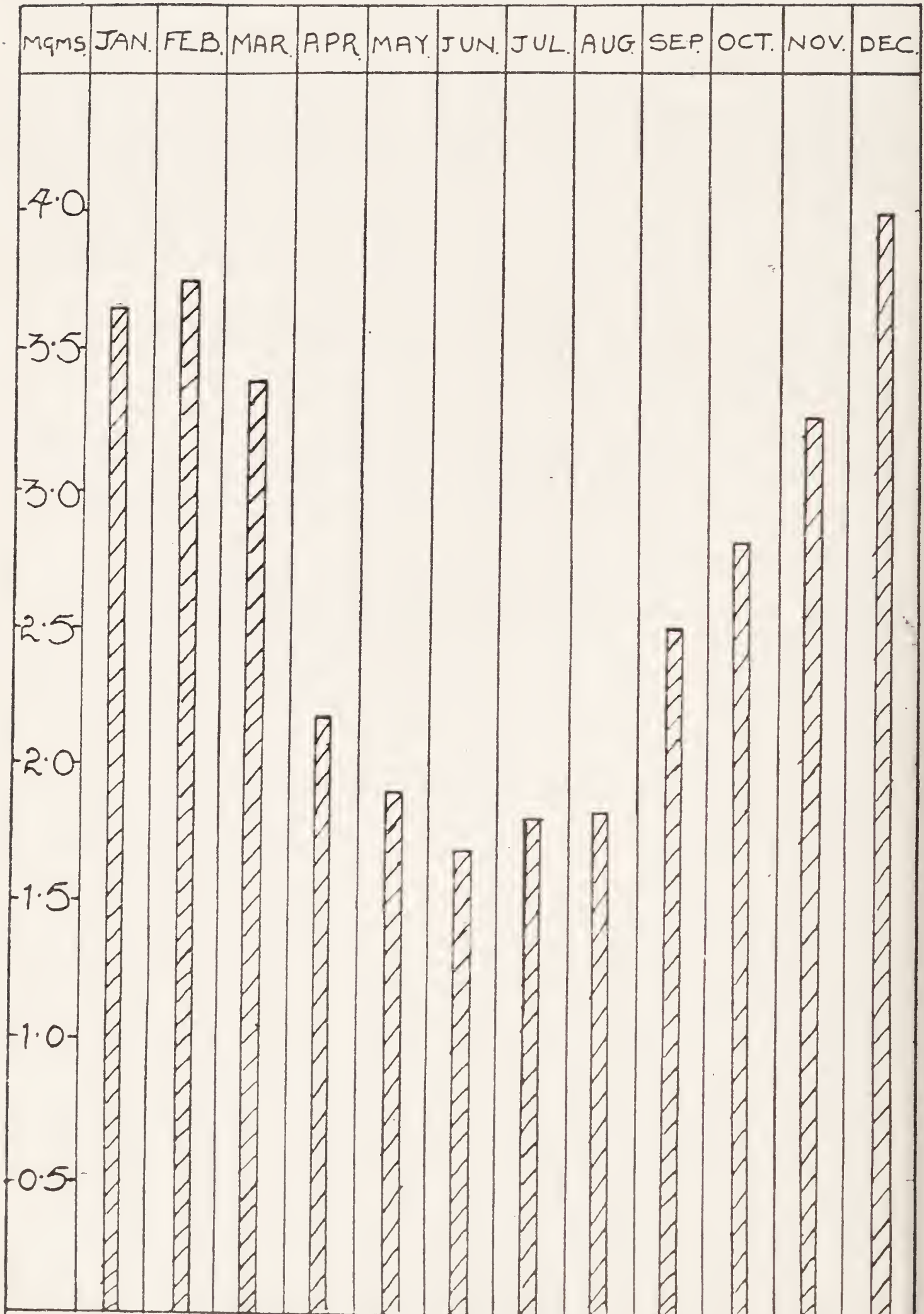
Mgm. Sulphur Trioxide per 100 sq. cms. exposed surface per day

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
<b>OLDHAM</b>												
Alexandra Park	2.75	2.66	2.23	1.74	1.53	1.27	1.28	1.46	1.89	2.21	2.51	2.86
Haven Lane	2.69	2.71	❖	1.53	1.17	1.39	1.40	1.23	1.72	2.15	2.42	2.80
Horsedge St.	5.04	5.39	4.46	2.88	2.57	2.28	2.59	2.61	3.41	3.31	4.45	5.36
Westhulme Hospital	3.85	3.86	3.41	2.21	1.80	1.46	1.61	1.58	2.21	3.08	3.15	4.45
Westlands	4.01	4.18	3.47	2.56	2.40	2.01	2.13	2.21	3.31	3.27	3.78	4.48
<b>CHADDERTON</b>												
Grammar School	4.63	4.37	❖	2.36	2.09	1.77	❖	1.81	2.45	3.50	3.65	4.40
Birch Lane	2.70	2.71	2.20	1.26	1.13	0.93	0.95	0.88	1.36	2.22	2.32	2.86
<b>CROMPTON</b>												
Shaw, Croft Bank	2.20	1.88	2.03	1.31	1.00	0.87	0.77	0.74	1.08	1.81	2.03	2.58
Home Farm	—	—	—	—	1.53	1.60	1.63	1.52	2.25	3.35	2.88	3.97
<b>FAILSWORTH</b>												
Highways Department	3.02	2.90	2.12	2.20	1.65	1.40	1.61	1.64	2.22	2.57	3.02	3.22
<b>HYDE</b>												
Highways Yard	2.33	2.47	2.17	2.24	1.75	1.32	1.50	1.29	1.85	2.19	3.27	2.96
Reservoir	2.20	2.24	1.75	1.85	1.36	1.25	1.39	1.38	1.88	2.12	2.29	2.52
<b>LEES</b>												
Cemetery	1.93	1.80	1.58	1.34	1.04	0.95	0.87	0.88	1.09	1.58	1.85	2.12
<b>MIDDLETON</b>												
Thornham School	4.19	4.02	3.18	1.90	1.70	1.95	1.87	1.62	2.54	3.60	3.36	4.10
Town Hall	2.31	2.23	1.97	1.44	1.03	0.86	0.72	0.70	0.83	1.34	2.04	2.45
<b>ROYTON</b>												
Hanging Chadder Farm	2.80	2.54	2.30	2.42	1.81	1.83	1.94	1.73	—	—	—	—
Royton Park	3.32	2.95	2.43	1.74	1.40	1.21	1.12	1.05	1.43	2.27	2.33	3.09
<b>STALYBRIDGE</b>												
Market Ground	3.31	3.31	2.54	2.54	2.04	1.58	1.61	1.61	2.34	2.91	3.28	3.68
Oakfield	2.82	2.73	2.37	1.63	1.45	1.43	1.37	1.46	2.00	2.37	2.62	3.00
<b>ASHTON</b>												
Grasmere, Stockport Rd.	4.01	2.22	1.89	1.61	1.46	1.15	1.36	1.26	1.71	1.97	2.50	2.77
Hartshead Pike	2.98	2.87	2.45	1.71	1.67	1.46	1.50	1.53	2.11	2.96	2.93	3.49
Lord Street	1.94	3.87	3.18	1.95	2.03	1.54	1.86	1.77	2.50	3.20	3.70	3.87
Jubilee Dingle	2.99	2.86	2.45	1.71	1.43	1.20	1.21	1.30	1.84	2.66	2.84	3.06
Swge. Wks., Limehurst	4.01	3.09	2.72	1.65	1.49	1.08	1.17	1.46	1.85	2.69	2.95	3.04
<b>ROCHDALE</b>												
Entwistle Rd.	1.6	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.1	1.8	0.8	0.6	1.1	1.5	1.9	2.3
Foxholes Hse., Rugby Rd.	2.2	2.5	2.1	1.5	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.9	2.1	2.5
Roch Mills Sewage Wks.	2.2	2.6	2.3	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.2	1.8	2.6	2.3
<b>SADDLEWORTH</b>												
Greenfield Sewage Wks.	1.73	2.14	2.07	1.21	0.77	1.41	1.60	1.12	1.31	1.96	2.17	2.72
<b>MANCHESTER</b>												
Monsall	5.1	5.2	4.4	2.8	2.3	1.6	2.0	2.0	2.8	4.3	4.8	5.2
Rusholme	2.5	2.4	1.9	2.2	1.5	0.7	1.3	1.3	1.8	2.0	2.9	2.1
Withington	1.4	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.6	0.7	0.6	1.1	1.4	2.2	2.6
<b>STOCKPORT</b>												
Cheadle Heath S. W.	2.3	3.4	2.3	1.2	1.7	1.2	1.4	1.3	2.0	2.3	3.2	3.2
Cornbrook Chemical Co.	3.1	3.6	2.5	—	—	2.2	1.7	1.4	2.1	2.8	3.5	3.4
<b>SALFORD</b>												
Ladywell Sanatorium	4.1	5.3	4.5	2.5	2.4	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.9	3.5	4.2	4.1
Regent Road	4.4	4.4	4.2	3.2	—	2.5	3.2	2.9	4.1	5.0	5.4	5.6

❖ Post broken or cylinder damaged.

# SULPHUR EMISSION-1957.

AMOUNT OF SO<sub>2</sub> IN MILLIGRAMS PER DAY PER 100 SQ. CMS.  
MONTHLY AVERAGE OF ALL STATIONS.





**Estimation of Atmospheric Deposit  
(by British Standard Deposit Gauge)**

The accompanying table shows the monthly analysis of the pollution deposited in the one standard deposit gauge, which is sited in Werneth Park. The figures may be taken as a fair indication of the amount of pollution deposited in this particular area, or say an area having a radius of approximately half a mile. The figures cannot be taken to represent the amount of pollution deposited throughout the Borough. The amount of pollution deposited in any gauge is dependent on many factors, the chief of these being wind direction and rainfall. It is rather too early to make any satisfactory judgment of the figures given, for the period over which the gauge has been in operation is only three years, and at least five years' results are needed before any appreciable significance can be indicated.

The deposited insoluble matter can be assumed to be of mainly local origin, whilst the soluble matter may be made up of both local and "exotic" pollution. The examination of the mean deposit of insoluble matter does indicate some slight reduction over the three years the gauge has been in use.

# ESTIMATION OF ATMOSPHERIC DEPOSIT (by British Standard Deposit Gauge)

The table indicates the amount of deposit in tons per square mile over the last three years.

MONTH	1955				1956				1957			
	Rain fall inches	Water Insol- uble matter	Water Soluble matter	Total Solids	Rain fall inches	Water Insol- uble matter	Water Soluble matter	Total Solids	Rain fall inches	Water Insol- uble matter	Water Soluble matter	Total Solids
JAN.	2.52	8.63	6.53	15.16	4.93	11.44	7.37	18.81	3.39	9.84	5.90	15.74
FEB.	2.05	10.43	6.00	16.43	1.22	8.20	4.93	13.13	2.56	7.57	4.33	11.90
MARCH	1.97	10.83	5.33	16.16	1.26	10.67	5.17	15.84	3.70	9.27	6.00	15.27
APRIL	2.17	7.50	5.23	12.73	3.07	9.17	6.80	15.97	0.55	12.64	3.07	15.71
MAY	3.51	11.50	6.57	18.07	1.89	26.28*	5.44	31.72	1.22	7.24	4.07	11.31
JUNE	3.23	10.50	5.47	15.97	3.86	8.94	5.27	14.21	2.48	10.23	4.70	14.93
JULY	1.02	8.56	2.60	11.16	4.53	7.07	14.94	22.01	4.45	8.97	6.94	15.91
AUGUST	.90	10.04	3.37	13.41	11.20	14.04	11.57	25.61	5.24	10.10	8.84	18.94
SEPT.	2.48	10.50	5.50	16.00	3.39	8.94	4.83	13.77	6.70	9.67	7.80	17.47
OCT.	2.05	9.37	7.07	16.44	3.03	8.64	6.87	15.51	4.92	8.04	6.40	14.44
NOV.	1.73	7.84	3.50	11.34	1.73	8.67	6.47	15.14	1.89	5.74	3.84	9.58
DEC.	5.08	13.14	11.17	24.31	3.47	9.64	5.47	15.11	2.68	8.97	5.90	14.87
TOTAL	28.71	118.84	68.34	187.18	43.58	131.70	85.13	216.83	39.78	108.28	67.79	176.07

\* This phenomenal rise is associated with some constructional works which were in progress near the site of the deposit gauge.



### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

During the year 591 complaints of rat infestation were received and the results of investigations were as follows:—

Defective drainage .....	191
Stray rats .....	217
Mice .....	183

The arrangements for rodent control continued as in the previous year. The consolidated grant of 50 per cent of the approved net expenditure incurred by the local authority was continued under Circular N.S.21.

The Borough is included in the area of the South East Lancashire Advisory Committee, and Councillor Mrs. E. Rothwell and the Chief Public Health Inspector were appointed as representatives of the Health Committee to serve on the Committee for the ensuing year.

### Sewer Maintenance Treatments

The second sewer maintenance treatment for the financial year 1956-57 and the first maintenance treatment for the year 1957-58 were carried out during the year, when the following results were obtained:—

	1956-57	1957-58
Number of manholes .....	2,070	2,070
Number of manholes baited .....	1,790	1,727
Number of manholes showing no take .....	524	504
Number of manholes showing pre-bait take .....	722	472
Number of manholes showing complete pre-bait take .....	544	751

Baiting was carried out on the 1-4-8-day basis as recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The bait base was bread rusk, the preservative and poisons were Para Nitrophenol and Antu.

## Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

In accordance with Section 128 of the Factories Act, 1937, the following particulars under Part I and Part VIII of that Act are submitted:—

**I.—INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
			Inspection (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	N.Mech. 79	...	...	...
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	Mech. 617	51	1	...
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ...	3	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ...		696	51	1	...

**II.—Cases in which defects were found.**

Particulars (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	4	...	...	...	2	...
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	5	...	...	...	...	...
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	6	...	...	...	...	...
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	7	...	...	...	...	...
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	...	...	...	...	...
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)						
(a) Insufficient ...	9	...	...	...	1	...
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	10	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	11	...	...	...	...	...
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	12	...	...	...	1	...
TOTAL ...	60	...	...	...	4	...

In the cases where defects were found by H.M. Inspector of factories, the necessary action was taken.



### Outworkers

Four lists relating to 6 outworkers were received during the year relating to the following:—

M/cr. Line.

No. 13 Wearing apparel, making, &c.

### The Pet Animals Act, 1951

The Chief Public Health Inspector, the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, one Assistant Public Health Inspector, and Mr. J. Sullivan, M.R.C.V.S., Veterinary Surgeon, are the appointed authorised officers for the purposes of inspection.

One new application was received and at the end of the year 12 premises were licensed and 17 visits had been made under the Act during the year. All the premises were found to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

### Diseases of Animals Acts

The Chief Public Health Inspector is the Authorised Inspector under the Diseases of Animals Acts.

There were 3 cases of suspected swine fever notified to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, but they were not confirmed. Disinfection was carried out in each case.

On the 1st of June the Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957, came into operation which transferred from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to Local Authorities the licensing of premises boiling waste food. A detailed inspection of premises was commenced to enable the situation of sites, boiling plants and distances from adjoining properties to be recorded. Seven licences were issued to operate plant and equipment.

### Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926

There were 13 samples of feeding stuffs sent for examination under the provisions of the Act, and all were reported to be satisfactory.

There were 13 visits made under the Act.

### Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

No new premises were registered or licensed during the year. In one case the licence was renewed, and in the other case no application was made for renewal.

The following particulars refer to premises registered and licensed at the end of the year:—

#### Registered Premises:

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| (a) For manufacture of bedding ..... | 2 |
| (b) For upholstering .....           | 4 |

#### Licensed Premises:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (a) For manufacture of rag flock ..... | 0 |
| (b) For storage of rag flock .....     | 1 |

There were 22 visits made under the above Act.

There were 5 samples of rag flock and other filling materials taken during the year and all conformed with the regulation.

## SECTION VII

## HOUSING

The following are details of the returns of demolition, closing and repair of houses under the Housing and Public Health Acts, made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in accordance with Circular 48/55:—

## 1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses During the Year

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....	4,047
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	6,713
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .....	276
(b) Number of inspections made for this purpose .....	341

## 2. Remedy of Defects During the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	945
---	-----

## 3. Action Under Statutory Powers During the Year.

## (A) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 16 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 AND SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957:

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....	34
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners .....	31
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .....	6

## (B) PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS:

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	105
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners .....	138
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .....	38

## (C) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11 AND 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 AND SECTIONS 16 AND 17 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957:

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .....	225
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....	145

## (D) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 AND SECTION 18 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .....	Nil
--	-----



- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit ..... Nil

### Slum Clearance Programme

The slum clearance programme of the Council which was submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government in 1955/1956 provides for the demolition of 1,150 houses in the five year period.

In February, 1956, the Council resolved that the building of new houses be limited to 400 per year and all these be allocated for the re-housing of residents of slum properties. In December of this year, owing to the high cost of loan charges and other costs affecting the Corporation, the building programme was reduced from 400 to 270 houses per year.

### SLUM CLEARANCE

#### Individual Unfit Houses

There were 182 houses represented. Demolition orders were made in respect of 91 houses and closing orders in respect of 5 houses. This involved the displacement of 91 families totalling 208 persons.

In 86 cases, details of ownership were not completed and it was, therefore, not possible to arrange for the Housing Committee to give further consideration to these properties before the end of the year.

Demolition orders were also made in respect of 134 houses and closing orders in respect of 4 houses. These 138 properties were represented during 1956.

The following is a summary of the individual unfit houses dealt with during the years 1943 to 1957:—

Year	Houses represented	No. of families	No. of persons	Position as at 31st Dec., 1957					
				Houses Vacated or Empty	Persons Rehoused		Total No. of persons awaiting re-hous'g	Houses Demolished	Total No. of Houses awaiting demolition
					By Corporation	By Own arrangements			
1943 to									
*1953	234	232	740	233	650	90	...	233	...
x1954	88	78	236	88	191	45	...	77	...
**1955	200	184	510	198	412	96	2	169	3
xx1956	216	204	615	187	449	82	84	79	122
o1957	182	169	408	71	119	47	242	15	76

\*In 15 cases the houses were demolished before demolition orders could be made by the Council. In the case of one house the representation was not accepted.

xIn 9 cases Closing Orders were made under Section 1(1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, and one of these was subsequently demolished. Undertakings under Section 11(3) of the Housing Act, 1936, were accepted in respect of 3 houses.

\*\*In 12 cases Closing Orders were made under Section 10(1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, and undertakings were accepted under Section 11(3) of the Housing Act, 1936 in respect of 16 houses. In 1 case the making of a Demolition Order was deferred.

xxIn 7 cases Closing Orders were made under Section 10(1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953. In 1 case the making of a demolition order was deferred and in 7 cases details of ownership were not completed and it was, therefore, not possible for the Housing Committee to give further consideration to these properties before the end of the year.

0 In 5 cases Closing Orders were made under Section 17(1) of the Housing Act, 1957.

The following table summarises the properties dealt with during the years 1943/56:—

	1943-55	1956	1957
Number of individual houses represented .....	522	216	182
Number of Demolition Orders made .....	360	164	225
Number of Closing Orders made .....	13	11	9
Number of Undertakings accepted .....	11	15	—
Number of houses demolished voluntarily ...	15	—	—
Other demolitions .....	1	—	—
Representations not accepted .....	1	—	—
Consideration of Order Deferred .....	1	1	—
Representation not yet considered .....	—	7	86

#### Clearance Areas

During the year 5 clearance areas were represented and the following are details of the properties and population included in these areas:—

Number of houses .....	125
Number of combined houses and shops .....	3
Number of other premises .....	4
Number of persons .....	313
Number of families .....	131

#### Littlemoor Clearance Orders

The Littlemoor Clearance Orders Nos. 3 to 17 were represented on the 2nd May, 1956, and Clearance Order No. 18 was represented on the 27th November, 1956.



Mr. S. G. Bulstrode, an Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government conducted the inquiry which lasted for three days from the 30th April to the 2nd May of this year and the inspection of the properties was carried out on the 28th, 29th and 30th of May. The Orders were subsequently confirmed on the 24th and 25th September, with the following modifications:—

**Order No. 6**—The properties numbered 20 and 21 in Part I of the schedule to the order have been excluded for all purposes from the clearance area and have been included with the lands coloured grey on the map as lands which the Council are authorised to purchase compulsorily outside the clearance area.

The properties numbered 20 and 21 were formerly houses, but had been converted into a combined workshop and garage.

**Order No. 14**—The property numbered 23 in Part I of the schedule to the order has been excluded for all purposes from the clearance area and has been included with the lands coloured grey on the map as lands which the Council are authorised to purchase compulsorily outside the clearance area.

The property numbered 23 was formerly a house, but had been converted into a grocer's shop.

**Order No. 18**—The properties numbered 13 and 14 in Part II of the schedule to the order have been excluded from the order.

The properties numbered 13 and 14 comprised of a public house and dwelling house.

COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDERS AND CLEARANCE ORDERS, 1956-57—TABLE I

Date of Representation	Compulsory Purchase Orders and Clearance Orders	Type of Premises to be demolished							Date of Ministry of Housing and Local Government Inquiry	Date of Confirmation of Order	Properties excluded as a result of Inquiry
		Acres	Houses	Combined Houses and Shops	Other Premises	Total Premises	Population	No. of Families			
	Littlemoor C.P.O.	4.561	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9-7-57	
2-5-56	Do.	5.218	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9-7-57	
2-5-56	Do.	1.129	31	5	1	37	92	34	30-4-57—2-5-57	24-9-57	
2-5-56	Do.	1.505	50	2	6	58	134	51	30-4-57—2-5-57	24-9-57	
2-5-56	Do.	.138	3	—	—	3	13	5	30-4-57—2-5-57	24-9-57	
2-5-56	Do.	2.058	60	—	14	74	163	63	30-4-57—2-5-57	24-9-57	
2-5-56	Do.	4.672	98	2	12	112	280	100	30-4-57—2-5-57	24-9-57	
2-5-56	Do.	.282	10	—	—	10	23	10	30-4-57—2-5-57	24-9-57	
2-5-56	Do.	.073	2	—	—	2	7	2	30-4-57—2-5-57	24-9-57	
2-5-56	Do.	.120	4	—	—	4	20	6	30-4-57—2-5-57	24-9-57	
2-5-56	Do.	.344	12	—	—	12	32	12	30-4-57—2-5-57	25-9-57	
2-5-56	Do.	.638	15	—	2	17	28	15	30-4-57—2-5-57	25-9-57	
2-5-56	Do.	.296	6	—	4	10	13	6	30-4-57—2-5-57	25-9-57	
2-5-56	Do.	1.872	56	4	2	62	113	59	30-4-57—2-5-57	25-9-57	
2-5-56	Do.	.311	8	1	1	10	21	8	30-4-57—2-5-57	25-9-57	
2-5-56	Do.	.373	12	—	—	12	25	12	30-4-57—2-5-57	25-9-57	
2-5-56	Do.	1.429	62	—	—	62	183	62	30-4-57—2-5-57	24-9-57	
27-11-56	Do.	.361	12	—	—	12	25	14	30-4-57—2-5-57	25-9-57	
31-12-57	Edward St. C.A.	.792	2	—	—	2	26	9	—	—	
31-12-57	West End St. C.A.	.138	7	—	—	7	17	7	—	—	
31-12-57	Bridges Yard C.A.	.184	6	1	—	7	6	4	—	—	
31-12-57	Taylor St. C.A.	.507	20	—	4	24	58	20	—	—	
31-12-57	Wallshaw St. C.A.	1.607	90	2	—	92	206	91	—	—	



### Voluntary Demolitions

Information was received with regard to the demolition of 32 houses by voluntary action, all of which were included in the slum clearance programme.

#### Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 54/55

This circular recommends that local authorities should issue a general reminder to the public through the press advising anyone intending to purchase older type properties to enquire at the Council's offices to ascertain whether such properties were affected by the Slum Clearance programme.

Publicity was given to this circular although this information was already being given to the public on enquiry. During the year 1,150 such enquiries were dealt with.

### Overcrowding

There were 2 new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.

### CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

#### Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

Under this Act 39 applications were received from tenants for certificates of disrepair. These were dealt with as follows:—

Certificates recommended .....	18
Not recommended .....	6
Withdrawn .....	15

There were 7 applications for revocation which were dealt with as follows:—

Revoked .....	7
Deferred .....	—

#### Rent Act, 1957

Under this Act 274 applications were received from tenants for certificates of disrepair. In 68 cases the applications were not considered by the Health Committee before the end of the year. The 206 cases were dealt with as follows:—

Certificates recommended .....	201
Withdrawn .....	4
Not recommended .....	1

There were 7 applications for cancellation of certificates of disrepair. In 3 cases the applications were not considered by the Health Committee before the end of the year. The 4 cases were dealt with as follows:—

Recommended for cancellation .....	4
Deferred .....	—

### Housing Applications Register

I am indebted to Mr. F. D. Matthews, Housing Manager, for the following information:—

“On the 31st December there were 2,173 applications for housing accommodation on the Housing Applications Register. This figure includes 472 applications for aged persons' bungalows.”

## HOUSING ACT, 1949

### Improvement Grants

Under Section 15(2) of this Act, in order to qualify for a grant a dwelling must provide satisfactory accommodation for/at least 15 years and the dwelling must conform to the specified requirements with respect to their construction and physical condition and provision of services and amenities. In January the Housing and Corporate Property Committee decided that the grants should be suspended owing to the increasing cost of loans raised by the Corporation to cover this expenditure.

Prior to this decision 44 applications were submitted to the Surveyors and Buildings Committee and all were granted. The grants recommended totalled £5,513 0s. 0d. All applications were vetted by this Department as to the suitability or otherwise of the premises.

Since the inception of the improvement grants scheme in March, 1955, a total of 361 grants have been made with a total expenditure of £44,997 1s. 0d.

### Eradication of Bed Bugs

The following figures show the number of houses inspected and the number disinfested.

	Corporation	Others
Houses inspected .....	274	277
Found infested .....	1	5
Disinfested by H.C.N. ....	—	—
Disinfested by spraying with liquid insecticide .....	—	253

### Removals and Disinfestation of Furniture

A Bedford 30 cwt disinfecting van is used for the disinfestation of furniture of families who are moving into Corporation houses and during the year furniture of 234 families was disinfested prior to removal to Corporation houses.

### Disinfection

The arrangements for disinfection continued as in previous years. During the year 30,100 articles were disinfected and 8,046 destroyed. The total number of houses disinfected was 543 with a total of 2,748 rooms.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

### Section 58

Legal proceedings were instituted against the owner of a building which was in a serious state of disrepair. Similar action was commenced in the previous year but was not enforced owing to an irregularity in the legal procedure. A further order was made against the owner for the repair or demolition of the property.

The necessary repairs were not commenced in the requisite period and the defendant was subsequently fined £10. The defendant appealed to the Quarter Sessions against the Magistrates' decision but the appeal was dismissed with costs for the Corporation. The work was subsequently carried out in default.



## SECTION VIII

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS

## Milk Supply

The Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) (No. 3) Order, 1953, is operative with regard to Oldham and requires that only designated milk should be supplied within the area. The special designations which may now be used in relation to milk are:—

“Pasteurised”

“Sterilised”

“Tuberculin Tested”

## Milk Production in the Borough

From information received from the Agricultural Executive Committee 24 farms out of a total of 36 within the Borough now have “Tuberculin Tested” licences, 19 have licences for the sale of wholesale and retail and 5 for the sale of wholesale only. The remaining farms are required to dispose of their milk to pasteurising plants in accordance with the The Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) (No. 3) Order, 1953.

## Eradication of Tuberculosis from Dairy Cattle

It is noteworthy that the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food have during the year put forward a proposal to bring the remainder of the country within the Attested Herds Scheme. During the coming year farmers in the midland counties, this county, and neighbouring counties are being offered free testing of their herds. After a period of two years, compulsory testing will be enforced. This scheme is to be commended and the work which has been done in recent years in this direction is already showing worthwhile results. The drop in the percentage of cows found to be affected with tuberculosis when slaughtered has dropped tremendously.

## The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

At the beginning of the year there were 27 distributors producing milk in the Borough and 27 distributor producers outside the Borough.

During the year 18 new distributors were registered for the sale of bottled milk.

On the 31st December there were 7 premises registered as dairies and 668 registered distributors of milk, comprised as follows:—

Number of distributors producing milk in the Borough .....	21
Number of distributors producing milk outside the Borough .....	20
Number of distributors with dairy premises in the Borough .....	7
Number of distributors with dairy premises outside the Borough .....	7
Number of other distributors .....	19
Number of shops at which bottled milk is sold .....	594

## The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

The following licences were in force on the 31st December:—

(a) To use the designation “Tuberculin Tested”

*Producer's Licence .....	21
Dealer's Licence .....	37
†Supplementary Licence .....	—

**The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk)  
Regulations, 1949**

The following licences were in force on the 31st December:—

(a) To use the designation "Pasteurised"	
Dealer's (Pasteuriser's Licence) .....	1
Dealer's Licence .....	105
†Supplementary Licence .....	3
(b) To use the designation "Sterilised"	
Dealer's (Steriliser's) Licence .....	—
Dealer's Licence .....	660
Supplementary Licence .....	2

\*These licences are granted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

†A Supplementary Licence is issued to persons whose premises are outside the Borough but who distribute milk within the Borough.

**Examination of Milk (Samples) for Tubercle Bacilli**

There were no samples of milk taken during the year for examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli.

**Milk Samples Taken for Methylene Blue Test**

There were 109 samples taken with the following results:—

Class of Milk Sample	No. of Samples Taken	Methylene Blue Test	
		Passed	Failed
Pasteurised .....	83	80	3
T.T. Pasteurised .....	26	24	2
Totals .....	109	104	5

With regard to the samples which failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue test, one sample was taken from a dairy within the Borough and four samples were taken from two dairies outside the Borough. The samples were taken during July on a day when the temperature varied considerably and it was contended that the atmospheric shade temperature exceeded 65° F.

**Milk Samples Taken for Phosphatase Test**

Regular samples are taken of pasteurised milk which comes into the Borough and of milk which is pasteurised in the Borough. Samples of the milk supplied under the Milk in Schools Scheme are taken monthly.

The following table details the samples taken:—



Class of Milk Sample	No. of Samples Taken	Phosphatase Test	
		Passed	Failed
Pasteurised .....	83	81	2
T.T. Pasteurised .....	26	26	—
Totals .....	109	107	2

The 2 samples which failed to pass the phosphatase test were from plants outside the Borough and in one case, following investigations, the pasteuriser's licence was cancelled.

#### Milk Samples for Turbidity Test

No samples of sterilised milk were submitted during the year.

#### Food and Drugs Act, 1955—Section 2 Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949—Article 26

A complaint was received of a piece of paper being found in a bottle of milk supplied by a retailer. The firm concerned was fined £2.

A further complaint was received of a pen knife being found in a bottle of milk supplied by the same firm. In this instance, owing to insufficient evidence, a letter of warning was issued.

#### ICE CREAM

During the year the control over the manufacture and sale of ice cream was maintained and 27 visits were made to registered premises.

On the 31st December there were 397 premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale, manufacture or storage of ice cream. The following table gives details of the premises registered:—

- (a) For the manufacture and sale of ice cream 5
- (b) For sale of pre-packed ice cream ..... 382
- (c) For sale of loose and pre-packed ice cream ..... 10

In the previous year 391 premises were registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream and 10 for the sale of loose and pre-packed ice cream.

#### Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, &c.) Regulations, 1947-1952

There are 5 ice cream manufacturers in the Borough. All the firms have complied with the requirements of the regulations and are fully alive to the importance of producing a product which is prepared and stored under strictly hygienic conditions.

#### Bacteriological Examination

There is no statutory bacteriological standard of cleanliness for ice cream but a methylene blue test has been adapted for ice cream and the result is classified in one of 4 grades.

There were 13 samples of ice cream submitted for the methylene blue grading test with the following results:—

Grade I .....	12
Grade II .....	1
Grade III .....	—
Grade IV .....	—

#### Standard For Ice Cream

During the year 11 samples of ice cream were taken for analysis and 1 sample was reported as below standard.

Sample No. 74—Deficient in fat to the extent of 15.6 per cent. A letter of warning was forwarded to the manufacturer in this case.



## MEAT INSPECTION

### Slaughterhouses

There are no private slaughterhouses in the Borough but there are two public slaughterhouses under the control of the Markets and Baths Committee; one is leased to the local Co-operative Society and the other to a private firm. Facilities are available at both these slaughterhouses for butchers to have their own animals slaughtered.

The following table shows the number of animals killed and inspected during the year with the results of inspection:—

**Carcases Inspected and Condemned**

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ...	3,467	933	95	17,936	3,829
Number inspected ...	3,467	933	95	17,936	3,829
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</b>					
Whole Carcases condemned	2	3	...	...	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	966	306	...	25	51
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis and Cysticerci ...	27.886	33.118	...	.139	1.384
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>					
Whole Carcases condemned	4	2	...	...	...
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	147	74	...	...	26
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	4.355	8.145	...	...	.679
<b>Cysticercosis</b>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	...	...	...	...
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	3	...	...	...	...
Generalised and totally condemned ...	...	...	...	...	...

The following figures show the percentage of cows affected with tuberculosis for the years 1954 to 1957:—

	Cow Carcases Examined	Percentage affected with Tuberculosis
1954 .....	2,647	27.37
1955 .....	2,289	24.79
1956 .....	1,058	19.47
1957 .....	933	8.14

The total weight of meat and offal destroyed was:—

For tuberculosis .....	11,161lbs.
For diseases other than tuberculosis .....	21,098lbs.

During the year 1 cow was found to be affected with tuberculosis of the udder and partial condemnation was necessary.

### Tuberculosis in Pigs

One batch of pigs received at the slaughterhouse was found to be extensively affected with tuberculosis, and it was considered necessary to inform the appropriate Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and advise at the place of origin.

### Summary of Diseased and Unsound Food Destroyed During 1957

	lbs.
Cattle (11 whole carcasses) .....	5,845
(1,493 part carcasses and organs) .....	25,085
Sheep (25 part carcasses and organs) .....	234
Pigs (2 whole carcasses) .....	140
(77 part carcasses and organs) .....	955
Preserved food .....	4,248 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cheese .....	64
Tripe .....	246
Fruit .....	88
Sausages .....	55
Bacon and Ham .....	204 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tongue .....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Onions .....	2
Fish .....	50 $\frac{1}{2}$
Salt .....	1
Pigs Plucks .....	220
Pork .....	7
Butter .....	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cereals and Pulses .....	14 $\frac{1}{4}$
Calves buttocks .....	148
Lungs .....	8
Kidneys .....	6
Beef .....	1,973
Liver .....	24
Poultry .....	84 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cake .....	14
Flour .....	51
Spirits .....	2
Sweets .....	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
Rabbits .....	60
Total .....	39,836 $\frac{1}{4}$

### Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1938-1954

There were 18 renewal licences and 2 new licences granted during the year.



### Horseflesh

There are two shops in the Borough for the sale of horseflesh. The animals are slaughtered and inspected outside the Borough.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

### Food Hygiene

The inspection and supervision of food preparation premises was continued and 627 visits were paid to these premises during the year. The following improvements were effected.

Hot water provided .....	14
New sinks installed .....	14
Premises enlarged .....	3

A programme of lectures and film shows was arranged and during the year two lectures and film shows were given to 62 persons attending.

A special course was arranged through the auspices of the St. John Ambulance Association in which the Medical Officer of Health, the Chief Public Health Inspector and the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector lectured. There were 41 students enrolled and 28 candidates finished the course and passed the examination. They were presented with certificates by the Mayor, Alderman Thomas Lyson, J.P.

### Contamination of Food

A complaint of a wasp being found in a jar of jam was received. The jam was manufactured by a firm outside the Borough who stated that, although every precaution was taken to avoid incidents of this kind occurring, their efforts were not always one hundred per cent successful.

A complaint of a burnt substance being found in a packet of breakfast cereals was received. This product was manufactured by a firm outside the Borough who stated that a small quantity of burnt shreds of wheat had fallen into the process stream of the biscuits and stated that steps would be taken to avoid a repetition of this incident.

### Report of the Public Analyst

Mr. T. W. Lovett, F.R.I.C., Borough Analyst, has kindly furnished the following report:—

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

"I have the honour to report that during the year ending 31st December, 1957, I have analysed 395 samples.

These consisted of 115 Milks; 79 Drugs; 12 Mixed Pickles; 12 Pastry and Pastry Mixtures; 11 Ice Creams; 11 Sauces; 9 Soft Drinks; 8 Jams; 8 Self Raising Flours; 7 Beef Sausages; 7 Jellies; 6 Ice Lollies; 5 Pork Sausages; 5 Plain Flours; 5 Malt Vinegars; 5 Cooked Meats; 4 Lemon Cheeses; 4 Coffee and Chicory Extracts; 3 Teas; 3 Mild Beer; 3 Flavouring, 2 each of the following:—Orange Drinks; Ground Rice; Non-Brewed Condiment; Jiffi-Jelli; Mint Sauce; Gravy Browning; Cream; Wholemeal Flour; Cheese Spread; Gelatine; Sausage Seasoning; Coffee; Ground Almonds, Almond Paste; Mixed Spice; Desiccated Coconut; Icing Sugar; Oatmeal; Pepper; Dressed Crab, and one each of:—Prunes; Salmon Paste; Distilled Malt Vinegar; Tapioca; Bakewell Filling; Instant Whip; Nut Mix; Currants; Shrimp Paste; Saccharine Tablets; Coffee and Chicory; Margarine; Real Marzipan; Cooking Herbs; Dripping; Lard; Colouring Solution; Hors d'Oeuvre; Cocktail Sausage; Gravy Salt; Lemon Flavour Crystals; Cloves; Unsweetened Bilberries; Condensed Milk; Jelly Crystals; Sage; Fish Cakes; Morning Fruit Juice; Liquorice Toffee; Dried Parsley; Cherry Juice; Lemon Juice; and Carmelle.

With the exception of 113 milk samples and eleven ice cream samples, all the samples were taken informally (i.e., the provisions of the Act were not observed).

Seven of the samples were reported as not up to standard, viz., three milk samples, two of which were naturally deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 2.3 per cent, and one deficient in non-fatty solids and also deficient in milk-fat to the extent of 2.9 and 3.3 per cent, respectively. One sample of ice cream contained only 4.22 per cent of fat instead of the minimum of 5.0 per cent. A sample of pure malt vinegar was in fact distilled malt vinegar, and one sample of sausage contained undeclared sulphur dioxide preservative and was also deficient in meat to the extent of 13.8 per cent.

The quality of the milk vended in Oldham as indicated by analysis shows it to be most satisfactory in all respects.

The following table gives the relative milk-fat content of the samples:—

Milk Fat—Below 3.0 per cent .....	1 sample
3.01 to 3.25 per cent .....	8 samples
3.26 to 3.5 per cent .....	36 samples
3.51 to 3.75 per cent .....	44 samples
3.76 to 4.00 per cent .....	15 samples
Over 4.0 per cent .....	11 samples

---

115 samples

All the drug samples, with the exception of one patent medicine, were in agreement with the label on the container or with the British Pharmacopoeia, or the British Pharmaceutical Codex.

The patent medicine referred to above concerned the treatment of anaemia. The matter is still under investigation.

All the remaining samples were of good quality and call for no special comment."



## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The total number of samples analysed during 1957 was 395, compared with 386 for 1956.

## Number of Samples Purchased for Analysis

Articles	Number of Samples of each article examined			Number of Samples of each article regarded as Adulterated, below standard, or otherwise not complying with prescribed requirements		
	Form-ally Taken	Inform-ally Taken	Total	Form-ally Taken	Inform-ally Taken	Total
Milk .....	114	1	115	3	—	3
Medicaments & Ointment	—	82	82	—	—	—
Cake & Pudding mixtures	—	16	16	—	—	—
Flour & Wholemeal .....	—	16	16	—	—	—
Jellies .....	—	12	12	—	—	—
Jams & Preserves .....	—	13	13	—	—	—
Fruit Drinks .....	—	14	14	—	—	—
Sauces .....	—	12	12	—	—	—
Sausages .....	—	12	12	—	2	2
Ice Cream .....	11	—	11	1	—	1
Mixed Pickles .....	—	11	11	—	—	—
Malt Vinegar .....	1	5	6	—	1	1
Coffee & Chicory and Coffee Essence .....	—	6	6	—	—	—
Ice Lollies .....	—	6	6	—	—	—
Cooking Herbs .....	—	4	4	—	—	—
Ground Almonds & Marzipan .....	—	5	5	—	—	—
Rice & Tapioca .....	—	3	3	—	—	—
Non-brewed Condiment ..	—	3	3	—	—	—
Beer .....	—	3	3	—	—	—
Tea .....	—	3	3	—	—	—
Steak .....	—	3	3	—	—	—
Flavourings & Colourings	—	3	3	—	—	—
Cream .....	—	2	2	—	—	—
Fish Cakes & Fish Paste	—	2	2	—	—	—
Toffee .....	—	2	2	—	—	—
Dried Fruit .....	—	2	2	—	—	—
Grapefruit .....	—	2	2	—	—	—
Sausage Seasoning .....	—	2	2	—	—	—
Dressed Crab .....	—	2	2	—	—	—
Cheese Spread .....	—	2	2	—	—	—
Flavoured Milk .....	—	2	2	—	—	—
Desiccated Coconut .....	—	2	2	—	—	—
Mixed Spices .....	—	2	2	—	—	—
Lard & Dripping .....	—	2	2	—	—	—
Onions .....	—	1	1	—	—	—
Hors d'Oeuvres .....	—	1	1	—	—	—
Eccles Cakes .....	—	1	1	—	—	—
Bilberry .....	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lemon Crystals .....	—	1	1	—	—	—
Nestle's Milk (in a tube)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Chicory & Figs .....	—	1	1	—	—	—
Shrimps .....	—	1	1	—	—	—
Margarine .....	—	1	1	—	—	—
Steak & Onions (tinned)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Beetroots .....	—	1	1	—	—	—
Stuffed Pork Roll .....	—	1	1	—	—	—
Totals .....	126	269	395	4	3	7

## MISCELLANEOUS

### National Assistance Act, 1948 (Section 47)

### National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951

#### Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention

The Welfare Services Committee exercises all the powers and duties of the Council under the National Assistance Act, 1948, with the exception of the powers and duties under Section 47 which, by agreement, have been transferred to the Health Committee.

The Health Committee has delegated all the powers of the Local Authority under this Section to a Special Sub-Committee.

The compulsory removal of a person to hospital or other accommodation is only undertaken as a last resort and when every avenue of approach has failed. During the year, action had to be initiated in one case.

Action under Section 47 was taken in the following case:—

**Case 1/57.**—A female aged 82 years who lived alone in one room of a lodging house. The room was dirty and neglected. The bedding was insufficient and filthy and she was dirty in her person and clothing. She had no relatives or friends. Numerous visits were made to persuade her to accept hostel accommodation. She agreed, but at the last minute changed her mind. An application was made to the Court and an order was obtained for her removal to the Westlands Hostel. Before the expiration of the order, she agreed to remain in the Hostel and was happily settled.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

#### Handicapped Persons

The powers and duties of the Welfare Services Committee include the welfare of persons who are blind, deaf and dumb, or who are substantially or permanently handicapped by illness, injury or congenital deformity. The Director of Welfare Services is the Chief Officer to the Committee.

#### Incidence of Blindness

The Director of Welfare Services arranges for the examination of adults suspected to be suffering from blindness and he receives Form B.D.8 (revised 1955) from the examining Ophthalmic Surgeon. By arrangement with him a copy of the form is forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health when the patient is admitted to the Register of Blind Persons. Ministry of Health Circular 4/55 which was issued on the 2nd March, 1955, recommended the use of a revised Form B.D.8 which was brought into use on the 1st April, 1955.

In the case of children of school age, the Principal School Medical Officer arranges the examination which is undertaken by the Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon (Dr. F. Janus).

During the year 37 persons (18 males and 19 females) were admitted to the Register of Blind Persons.



The following table gives the age and sex distribution and the causes of blindness in these cases:—

	AGE GROUPS												Total
	0-1	1-4	5-15	16-20	21-30	31-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65-69	70-79	80+	
	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	
Cataract ...	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	1 -	1 2	1 2	3 5
Glaucoma ...	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	1 -	- -	2 -	2 2	1 -	6 3
Others .....	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 2	1 3	5 6	2 -	9 11
TOTAL ...	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	1 1	1 2	4 3	8 10	4 2	18 19

#### Degree of Blindness

1. No perception of light ..... —
2. Perception of light ..... 5 cases
3. Vision of up to and including 3/60 Snellen ..... 17 cases
4. Better than 3/60 Snellen ..... 15 cases

Ministry of Health Circular 1/54 requested Medical Officers of Health to include in their Annual Reports a section relating to blind persons and accordingly the following information is submitted for the 37 cases for whom Form B.D.8 has been received:—

#### A. Follow-up of Registered Blind Persons

Treatment Recommended on Form BD.8. (Revised 1955)	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Senile Macular Degener	Others
None	—	—	—	11
Medical	—	—	—	5
Surgical	5	—	—	—
Optical	1	—	—	1
Hospital Supervision	2	9	—	3
Totals ...	8	9	—	20

**Cataract:** Eight cases were admitted to the Register, 6 of whom had received consultant advice before registration; 3 of these had surgical treatment prior to registration and 2 others were unwilling to have operative treatment. The two who had not seen a consultant before registration refused specialist advice.

**Glaucoma:** There were 9 cases admitted to the Register and all had previously had consultant advice and were still attending for hospital supervision. Of these 7 had received surgical treatment.

**Others:** These were diabetic retinopathy (4) retinal detachment (1), myopic degeneration (8), senile macular degeneration (7). All had received consultant advice prior to registration.

At the 31st December, there were 324 persons (147 males, 177 females) on the Register of Blind Persons.

**Ophthalmia Neonatorum:** There were 5 cases notified during the year and in no case was vision lost or impaired.

The following table shows the cases notified and results of treatment:

#### B. Ophthalmia Neonatorum

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year .....	5
(ii) Number of cases in which:	
(a) Vision lost .....	None
(b) Vision impaired .....	"
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year .....	"

#### Partially Sighted

There were 9 persons admitted to the Register of Partially Sighted and these were all females, whose ages were 45, 55, 60, 69, 71, 74(2), 78(2) years.

The diagnoses were:—

Cataract .....	3
Myopia .....	3
Senile macular degeneration .....	3

At the 31st December, there were 39 persons (17 males, 22 females) on the Register of Partially Sighted Persons.

#### Spastics

Ascertainment commences with the health visitor, the child welfare centre or the Consultant Pædiatrician. Cases are discussed with the Consultant Pædiatrician to the Oldham Hospital Group at the regular conference which he holds with the staff of the Health Department. The general practitioner is advised with regard to any special development or treatment.

The Education Committee provides special schooling and, if necessary, home teaching till the spastic reaches school leaving age.

No spastic reached school leaving age during the year.

#### Epileptics

There is complete co-ordination with the diagnostic and treatment services for school children and adult epileptics who are brought to the notice of the Consultant Psychiatrist.

No cases were ascertained as requiring admission to special residential schools during the year.



### Hostels for Aged Persons

I am indebted to the Director of Welfare Services (Mr. W. Hutchinson) for the details contained in the following report:—

The following accommodation was available in Residential Homes during the year:—

Name of Home	Opened	Accommodation Provided	Category
Greenacres Lodge, Greenacres Road .....	30-8-48	36 women	Aged persons
"Westlands," Grange Avenue .....	14-12-48	31 men and women	Aged persons
"The Hollies," Frederick Street .....	10-10-49	30 men	Aged persons
Stamford House, Lees New Road, Lees	28-11-49	15 women	Aged persons
Wellington Lodge, Wellington Road .....	11-3-53	18 women	Aged persons
Moorfield, Greenacres Road .....	24-1-55	16 men	Aged persons
Ashleigh, Newport Street .....	17-2-55	20 women	Aged persons
Edward House, Edward Street .....	24-4-52	24 men and women	Blind persons
"Lyndhurst," Queens Road .....	14-8-52	14 men and women	Deaf persons
"Toravon," Newport Street .....	30-6-55	27 men and women	Handicapped persons
"Greylands," Rhos-on-Sea .....	16-6-55	20 men and women	All categories
"Limecroft," Whitebank Road .....	22-1-57	42 men and women	Aged persons
"Glenthorne," Queens Road .....	4-12-57	26 men and women	Aged persons
Napier House, Windsor Road .....	24-11-52	Temporary accommodation for persons rendered homeless on account of fire, flood, &c.	

At the end of the year accommodation was available in Hostels for 254 aged, 24 blind, 14 deaf and 27 handicapped persons.

### Cancer Education

A scheme of research by the Manchester Committee on Cancer approved by the Health Committee in 1951 and commenced in 1952 was continued for the sixth year. The following report of Mr. John Wakefield, B.A., Executive Officer of the Committee, again shows a very satisfactory result of the work undertaken during the year:—

"Despite the massive advances in treatment techniques which in recent years have brought more and more forms of cancer into the curable class, quite the most dramatic improvement in the cancer cure-rate would be brought about if everyone was ready to see a doctor at once for any persistent departure from normal good health.

1957 marked the sixth year of our attempt to promote knowledge of cancer and confidence in the value of treatment where at present ignorance and fear exist, and so to induce in those who are needlessly afraid, the matter-of-fact attitude of mind which regards cancer as just another serious disease. Once again I am pleased to report a splendid response from Oldham clubs and societies—during the year no fewer than 28 groups took advantage of our offer to supply a speaker free of charge. Even this is no real measure of the publicity our work receives, for proof of the gossip value of these meetings can be found in local hospitals, where many people have recorded how they were first persuaded to seek medical advice by friends who happened to have heard one of our speakers. An even wider public is reached through the co-operation of the editor of the Oldham Chronicle, who has been consistently helpful in publishing regular reports of our meetings.

In the past critics have maintained that to educate the public about cancer would increase existing fears, create widespread cancerphobia, and in consequence lay an intolerable burden on the shoulders of already over-worked general practitioners. Towards the end of the year we carried out an opinion survey among general practitioners, to find out whether the gloomy prognostications of the critics have materialised. Results of the survey will be published early in 1958, and I will deal with them more fully in my next report. But in the meantime I am pleased to say that a vast majority of Oldham doctors not only have no criticism of our methods, but give us the wholehearted support we need if this campaign is to be successful."

#### **Manchester and Salford Family Service Unit**

The service of the Family Service Unit was extended to the Oldham County Borough under an agreement made in 1949 for an experimental period of two years under which the Corporation made a grant to the Unit of £500, this payment being divided equally (£125 each) between the Health, Housing, Childrens and Welfare Services Committees. This agreement was extended for a further five years from the 1st December, 1951, and the contribution increased to £750 on the following basis:—

Housing Committee .....	£125 per annum
Welfare Services Committee .....	£125 per annum
Childrens Committee .....	£250 per annum
Health Committee .....	£250 per annum

The Council approved an extension of the agreement on the existing financial basis for a further five years, subject to the approval of the appropriate Ministries, which was subsequently received.

Under the agreement the equivalent of one case worker is allocated to the Oldham area and the Housing Manager acts as Liaison Officer and any cases considered to be suitable for supervision by the Unit are referred to him by the Head of the department concerned.



The following report on the work of the Unit in Oldham during the year has been made by the Fieldwork Organiser, Mr. Elwyn H. Thomas:—

“Family Service Unit continues to work in Oldham with families in which there are chronic, and generally numerous, home difficulties. Rehabilitation of these families may take years of work, by trained social case-workers, whose refusal to be discouraged by setbacks is an essential feature of the work.

As the need for this type of work has become more widely recognised, other social workers have recommended more families for Family Service Unit help. Consequently over the past year, the case-load has been increased from 20 to 25 families who are now receiving long-term case-work help. Every effort is made to help them to face their home commitments, in terms of child care, home care, and their wider responsibilities, to the community. This aims to increase the family's self-respect, their respect in the neighbourhood, and in the town.

During the year, some families have become sufficiently independent, and no longer need Family Service Unit help, which is now available for other urgent cases. Work is done in close co-operation with other social workers in Oldham, both statutory and voluntary.

The increased case-load has only been possible with increased staff. Mrs. Trembath was joined in 1956 by Miss Hilary Murrant, and in 1957 by Mrs. Elaine Joynes, the latter being a part-time worker.

Family Service Unit's position in Oldham and district has now become sufficiently stabilised to merit the formation of an independent ‘Oldham and District’ Unit, which is planned for 1958.”

### OLDHAM CREMATORIUM

The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Referee to the Crematorium, and the Senior Assistant Medical Officer and one Assistant Medical Officer act as Deputy Medical Referees.

Dr. C. H. Adderley, Consultant Pathologist, Oldham Hospital Group, is the Pathologist, and Dr. D. L. Boardman the Deputy Pathologist to the Crematorium. Their services are only used should the Medical Referee require a post-mortem examination before issuing an order for cremation.

During the year 902 cremations were authorised by the Medical Referee or his deputies. In 133 of these cases a certificate (Form E) had been given by the Coroner.

In one case, after discussion with the practitioner signing Form B, the Medical Referee considered it necessary to order a post-mortem. The Consultant Pathologist completed Form D, being satisfied that there was no reason for conducting any toxicological examination or for holding an inquest.

In six cases the confirmatory medical certificate was signed by a medical practitioner who had some responsibility for the case. All these cases occurred in hospital and the Medical Referee contacted the medical practitioner concerned and drew his attention to the advice of the British Medical Association and the Home Office.

In three cases the confirmatory medical certificate (Form C), as signed, could not be accepted by the Medical Referee and a fresh certificate (Form C) was completed by the Medical Referee or by one of his deputies. These cases all occurred in hospital. The following were the grounds for refusal:—

- (a) In two cases the medical practitioner had operated on the patient.
- (b) In one case the medical practitioner had some responsibility for the case.

In one case although Form B and Form C had been completed the Medical Referee recommended that the Coroner should be advised of the circumstances of death. The Coroner subsequently ordered a post-mortem examination and issued Form E.

Of the 902 deceased persons, 488 were Oldham residents, and 414 resident outside the Borough.



# SUPERANNUATION AND OTHER MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

## Corporation Employees

During the year the medical staff of the department undertook medical examinations as follows:—

Department	Superannuation		Special	Total
	Entrants	Disability		
Baths and Wash-houses .....	—	1	—	1
Borough Engineer & Surveyor's	13	—	—	13
Borough Treasurer's Dept. ....	4	—	—	4
Children's .....	28	—	—	28
Civil Defence .....	1	—	—	1
Cleansing & Transport .....	44	1	2	47
Education .....	40	2	—	42
Fire Service .....	—	—	1	1
Housing .....	7	—	—	7
Libraries .....	2	—	—	2
Magistrates' Clerk's .....	1	—	—	1
Markets .....	2	—	1	3
Parks & Cemeteries .....	23	1	5	29
Passenger Transport .....	158	—	7	165
Police .....	4	—	—	4
Probation .....	1	—	—	1
Public Health .....	81	2	13	96
Registrar's .....	—	—	—	—
Street Lighting .....	5	1	—	6
Town Clerk's .....	3	—	—	3
Town Hall .....	—	—	—	—
Waterworks .....	14	2	—	16
Weights & Measures .....	1	—	—	1
Welfare Services .....	19	1	1	21
Works Department .....	34	5	1	40
	—	—	—	—
	485	16	31	532
	—	—	—	—

Teachers entering the service of the Council from other authorities and new entrants to the teaching profession who have not been medically examined on completion of their course of training are examined as to their fitness for employment. These examinations are undertaken by the medical officers of the department, and during the year 77 teachers were examined. These figures include 31 examinations (20 females, 11 males) for which Form 28RQ was completed and forwarded to the Ministry of Education.

### Other Examinations

Transport—Road Traffic Acts .....	37
Waterworks—Entrants .....	28
Education—Entrants (Teachers) .....	77
Health Department—Entrants .....	2
Other Authorities .....	3
	<hr/>
	147
	<hr/>
Number of persons referred to Consultants	21
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The above pathological examinations included 30 samples of blood for Widal tests and 30 samples of fæces taken from employees for the Waterworks Department.

### Candidates Applying for Admission to Colleges

The medical examination of candidates applying for entry to training colleges, university departments of education, and approved art schools is the responsibility of the Principal School Medical Officer, and he is assisted by the medical officers of the department in these examinations.

During the year 50 candidates (18 males, 32 females) were examined and a report on Form 4R.T.C. completed and forwarded to the appropriate college authority.

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## BOROUGH CORONER'S REPORT FOR 1957

The deaths reported to the Coroner during the year 1957 were 390 (males 229, females 161).

Of this total 14 were mental patients and mental defectives in institutions.

In 248 of the cases reported, the deaths were investigated by the Coroner but no inquests held.

There were 142 inquests held (90 males and 52 females).

Of the 142 inquests, 59 were held with a jury.

There were 298 post-mortem examinations, in 173 of which no inquest was held. The expenses of the inquests amounted to £1,699 18s. 6d.

The verdicts returned were:—

Suicides, 27 (males 16, females 11).

Accident or misadventure, 74 (males 42, females 32).

Natural causes, 18 (males 13, females 5).

Deaths from industrial disease, 17 (males 14, females 3).

Open verdicts, 4.

Self neglect, 1.

The ages of the 27 suicides were as follows:—

Between 30 to 39 years of age .....	2
40 to 49 years of age .....	3
50 to 59 years of age .....	9
60 years and over .....	13

The types of suicide were:—

Gassing .....	15
Hanging .....	4
Drowning .....	3
Shooting .....	1
Cut throat .....	1
Drugs .....	3

There was one case adjourned under Section 20 of the Coroners (Amendment) Act, 1926, and not resumed. The charge was one of dangerous driving under Section 8 of the Road Traffic Act, 1956, and the person charged was found guilty.

In 1956 there were 404 deaths reported, 152 inquests were held, and the expenses were £1,677 4s. 2d.

JOHN L. WATSON,

Coroner.

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